The Middlebury Campus

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Screen Hero to Address Graduates

By Devin B. Zatorski
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Superman is coming to Middlebury College this May. No, it's not the latest in a string of sequels and spin-off television dramas. This is the real deal.

College officials will announce today that Christopher Reeve — who portrayed the superhero in the original 1978 motion picture — will co-deliver the commencement address to the Class of 2004 with his wife Dana Morosini Reeve '84. It will mark the couple's first ever joint address.

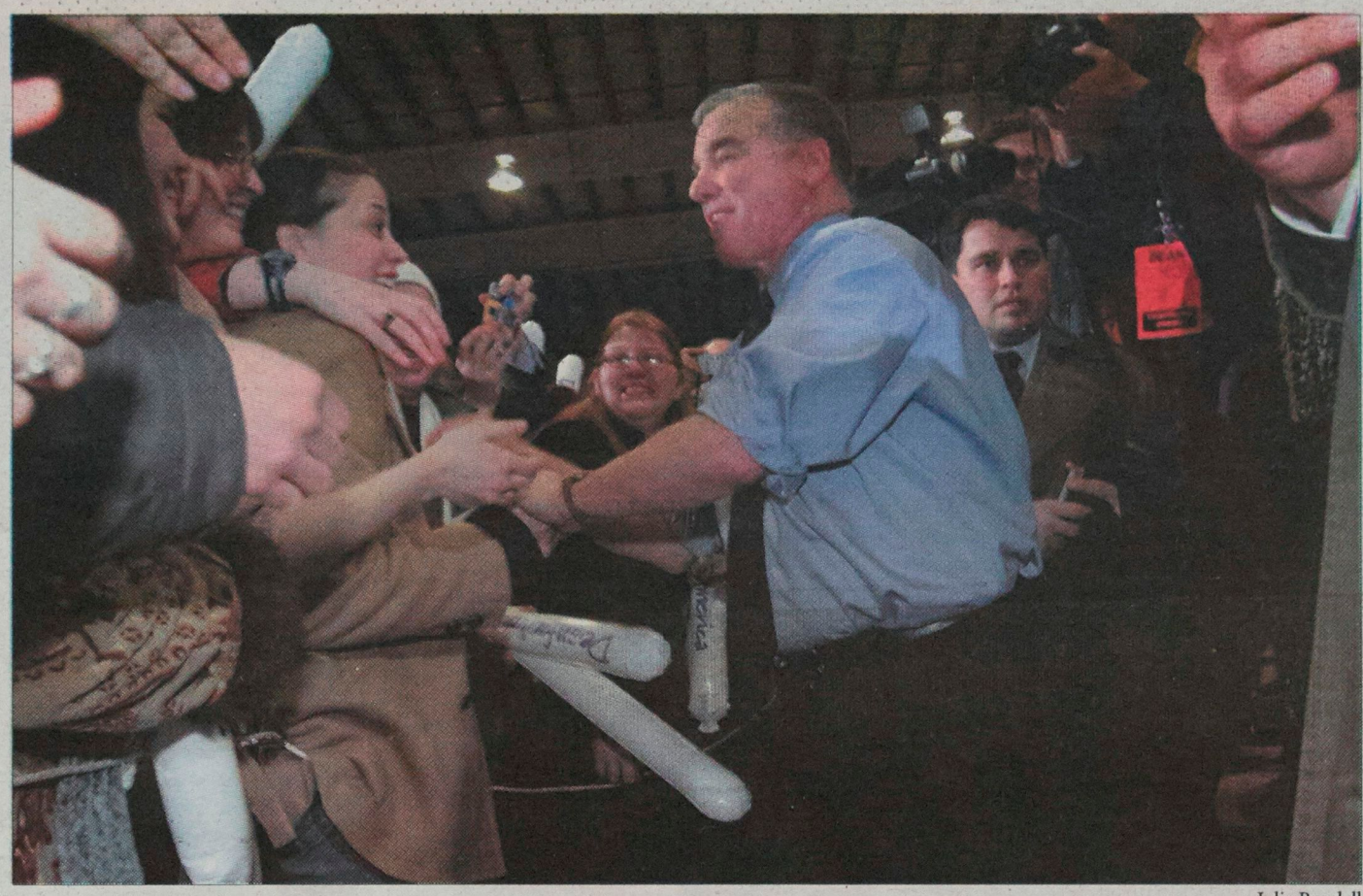
"I am delighted that Christopher Reeve and Dana Morosini Reeve will be our Commencement co-speakers," said President John McCardell. "Their message will undoubtedly be uplifting, and their example is inspiring."

Though Christopher once defied gravity, he has been restricted to a wheelchair for the past eight years since an equestrian accident left him paralyzed from the neck down. Doc-

SEE SUPERMAN, PAGE 6

Courtesy

Christopher and Dana Reeve will deliver the Commencement Address to the Class of 2004.



Julia Randall

Displaying support for Dean, over 25 Middlebury students made a four-hour journey to Portsmouth, N.H. at 3:30 a.m. on Jan. 20. They responded to an e-mail sent by Calvin Garner '06, who spent Winter Term interning with the Dean Campaign.

Students Pack Midnight Dean Rally

By Chesley Thurber
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The crowd cheered and banged inflatable "thundersticks" as Dr. Howard Dean's plane touched down and the candidate entered the hangar full of nearly 500 screaming fans and more than 25 Middlebury students. One could hardly tell that the campaign had just been dealt a stunning defeat in the Iowa precinct caucuses — or that it was 3:30 a.m.

Word of the rally to be held in the early morning hours of Jan. 20 had spread just the day before through an email from Calvin Garner'06 who is spending his Winter Term as an intern with the campaign. Garner invoked his fellow supporters to take

IS MIDDLEBURY A HOWARD DEAN CAMPUS? TURN TO PAGE 4 TO FIND OUT.

the three and a half hour drive to the Pease International Airport with the goal of building a crowd of 1,000 to greet Dean upon his late night arrival. The large crowd at such an hour would make a statement of unfaltering support intended to help Dean rebound in the event of an Iowa loss or continue his momentum were he to have won. "I understand that this request is not only out of the ordinary, but a little bit nuts," wrote Garner.

Many students took him up on his request, as much out of loyalty to their friend as support for Dean's candidacy. Robin Cornuelle '06 took the voyage across the greater part of two states to see Dean for the first time. She had previously known very little about the candidate and quickly educated herself by visiting his Web site before departing.

"I thought his environmental and education platforms were really strong," noted Cornuelle. She was even more impressed after hearing him speak, "I thought he was a good speaker and he had a good presence...he worked the crowd very well."

By the time the students left Middlebury, most had already heard of Dean's disappointing Iowa results. What they did not yet know

SEE DEAN, PAGE 6

KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE

Julia Randall

Performing her poetry before the crowd at the Martin Luther King Day Celebration Breakfast, *Crystal Belle '04 recited a self-composed piece entitled "A Dream Deferred."*

EAC Presents Dual J-Term Proposals

By Andrea Gissing
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

After several months of discussion, the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) presented two proposals for a revised College calendar to the faculty on Thursday, Jan. 15. The proposals addressed faculty arguments for and against the present Winter Term calendar that were raised at and since the September Bread Loaf faculty meeting. The first proposal involves modifications being made to the current organization of J-term and the academic calendar. The second proposal eliminates Winter Term and replaces it with two 14-week semesters.

The proposed modified J-term is similar to the current system, yet addresses many faculty concerns. The main difference is that students will be required, but not be limited, to enroll in two out of four Winter Terms. Upperclassmen, who have extra College credits, either obtained through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate exams or through extra courses — or who decide to take five courses in a semester — can decide to opt out of a Winter Term. This is designed to reduce the number of courses that need to be offered during Winter Term, though the EAC estimates that only 10 percent of students will take advantage of this, as well as accommodating students whose study abroad programs start or end early and seniors who might wish to spend the time job hunting. Furthermore, professors will be required to include a sentence detailing the graded work that is required for the course in the catalog description.

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Please visit our Web site:
www.middleburycampus.com

MiddBriefs

by Tom Drescher and Meredith Kernan

Honorary Degrees Awarded

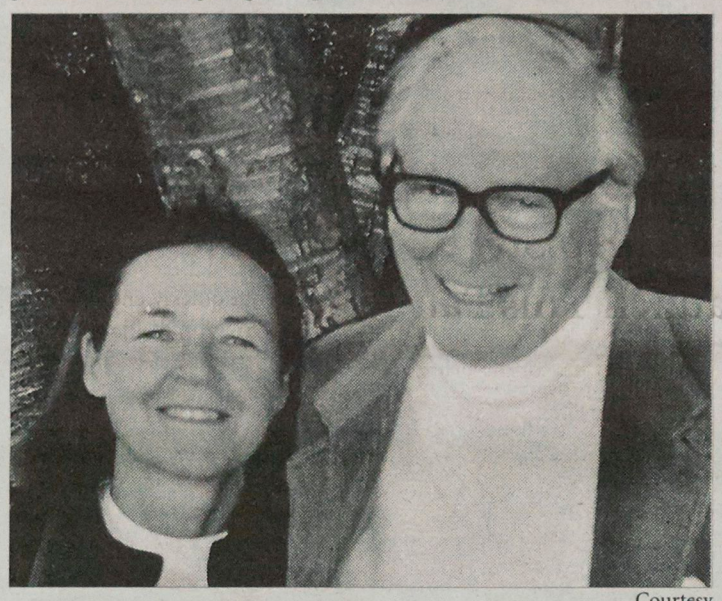
This year, Middlebury College's mid-year graduation ceremony will feature a special presentation. Shelby and Gale Davis, benefactors of the United World Colleges will be receiving honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the College at the 9:30 a.m. ceremony in Mead Chapel on Jan. 31.

The Davises have contributed more than $75 million to the United World Colleges (UWC), a global educational movement designed to promote peace, tolerance and a sense of community on the international level. The couple also finances the full need-based tuition costs of UWC graduates attending Middlebury and four other schools, including Princeton, Colby and Wellesley, and provides scholarships for graduates at 45 other colleges and universities.

A Princeton alumnus, Mr. Davis is the founder of Davis Advisors, L.P., a $30 billion mutual fund and money management firm. Impressed with the vibrancy of UWC and its ability to encourage cultural exchange, the Davises were inspired to begin a comprehensive scholarship program for UWC graduates pursuing further educational opportunities. Mr. Davis called Middlebury "a forerunner among universities that recognize the importance of fostering international unity," and added that he and his wife were very grateful to the College for its efforts in support of their programs.

Mr. Davis also said that he was "especially indebted to President McCardell for focusing on the Davis UWC program and allowing Middlebury to play a leading role in its success." The College typically presents six to eight honorary degrees at Commencement in May, another two or three at Language School Commencement and occasionally a few during the academic year.

The Class of 2004 is the first to feature UWC alumni taking advantage of the Davis's scholarships, making this an appropriate time to honor the couple's generosity. Additionally, the Davis's son graduated from Middlebury in February 2002. As Mr. Davis explained, "We have a saying in my family — the first third of your life is to learn, the second to earn and the third to return. Right now I'm in the giving back phase."



Courtesy

Gale and Shelby Davis will receive honorary degrees this weekend.

Six Faculty Members Tenured

At a December meeting in New York City, the Board of Trustees voted to grant tenure to six Middlebury College professors — Associate Professor of Classics Randy Ganiban, Associate Professor of Psychology Barbara Hofer, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Roger Sandwick, Associate Professor of Computer Science Daniel Scharstein, Associate Professor of English Marion Wells and Associate Professor of Geology David West, Jr.

According to the College Handbook, the appointment to tenure recognizes the faculty members "who are of exceptional quality as teachers and who are scholars or artists of significant achievement."

The tenure review process, which was carried out throughout the fall semester by the Trustee-appointed Reappointments Committee, is thorough and intense. In addition to course materials like syllabi and assignments, tenure candidates are also required to submit evaluations from peers, students, department heads and themselves. Candidates' teaching methods are also observed through frequent classroom visits. Although West admitted, "The process can be stressful at times," most faculty agreed that the system was fair. "I am deeply impressed with the careful attention that goes into decisions of this magnitude," said Hofer. Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly noted that none of the candidates up for promotion to tenure this fall were denied.

While at some larger institutions an appointment to tenure results in less time teaching and more time researching, the newly tenured Middlebury faculty members do not plan to devote less time to their students. "If tenure changes anything, it is perhaps that it permits more risk-taking — more creative approaches to teaching, the design of new courses, the pursuit of new avenues of research," said Hofer. "I think all of this benefits students and the institution."

"Knowing that not passing tenure means having to leave this campus, I am certainly happy for the positive decision," said Sandwick. "Much better than tenure, however, is when a student tells you that you've impacted their life," he added.

The six faculty members achieving tenure were notified through intercampus mail, although the Committee struggled with how to inform candidates of the outcome of their review. To Hofer, the method of notification seemed rather "anti-climactic." But she said, "If you had been in BiHall at that time, you would have heard champagne corks popping throughout the building!"

Schuyler Van Horn

A hot dog sizzles in the tongs of vender Steve Jackson. Jackson has sold hot dogs on Main Street since June 2003.

College Weathers Frigid Temps

By Taylor Johnston
Staff Writer

This month Middlebury's low temperatures sunk into the glacial negative 20s even without wind chill, but the College has held up just fine.

In most of the country, chit chat about the weather is seen as a desperate attempt to preserve conversation, but here in Vermont it is an issue that warrants more than a passing comment.

This month Middlebury's low temperatures sunk into the glacial negative 20s even without wind chill, but Middlebury College has held up just fine.

"There have been a few isolated problems with freezing pipes," reported Staff Engineer for Facilities Management George McPhail. "In times of extreme cold, you always have to be careful about doors getting stuck and windows being open. Below zero just isn't fun for anyone."

Extreme conditions make for an interesting dilemma when fire alarms go off in College buildings and dormitories. Just ask any of Battell's 250 first-years who heard bells at 3 a.m. when forecasts predicted that temperatures would drop to a dangerous negative 40 with wind chill.

"Any time there's an alarm, you're supposed to exit. If it was [subzero], I would try to get into another building. Don't stand outside and freeze. Hopefully the incidents of false alarm will be low during this cold weather," said McPhail.

It only gets colder for those who frequent the Snow Bowl, where wind chill has brought the temperature down to negative 30 during the day, according to the 7 a.m. daily ski report. The Bowl closed Jan. 14 due to a forecast of negative 50 below with wind chill.

"The overall impact has been negative in terms of kids finishing lessons," explained Bowl Area Manager, Peter Mackey. "Our weekend business has been [especially] hurt. The last three weekends have been the coldest in a while. Even negative 10 with a 15 to 20 mile-an-hour wind is a pretty hefty wind chill up on top."

Skiing conditions have improved in the past week after an icy start, Mackey said. "That still doesn't offset the cold weather. It's been kind of reminiscent of last year."

According to the Snow Bowl's ski report data from last season, the average morning temperature at the Bowl was a chilly eight degrees, quite a contrast to the pleasant 2001-2002 season that only saw the mercury dip into the negatives twice. This year promises to live up to last winter's extremes.

"We've had a few minor cases of frost bite. The lift operators are pretty good at checking people to make sure they're OK. Ski Patrol has treated a few cases," said Mackey.

First-year Emily Powell can attest to this herself. "I've frostbitten my nose twice while skiing up at the bowl," she said. Despite extreme conditions both on campus and at the Bowl, the Parton Health Center has only recorded a couple cases of minor frostbite and no hypothermia.

Tuition Cost Under Annual Scrutiny

By Eleanor Parker
Staff Writer

What will the comprehensive fee be for the 2004-2005 academic year? Will it break the landmark $40,000? Questions like these have been circulating around the Middlebury College's campus as Feb. 13 rapidly approaches. On this date the Board of Trustees will meet with individuals from the Budget Office and the Comprehensive Fee Committee to determine the comprehensive fee, for the next academic year.

The students on the Committee — Amichai Kilchevsky '04.5, Andrew Martel '04, Mike Vilarello '05, Chris Hicks '06 and Alison Thang '06 — have been meeting throughout the month of January to draft a proposal to be presented to the Trustees. Kilchevsky said that the Committee's ultimate goal is "to find a way to maintain the quality of life at Middlebury while making sure that the tuition doesn't increase more than it has to."

In the past, the comprehensive fee has increased each year at a rate of about five to six percent. Martel noted that "[The comprehensive fee] will inevitably increase, but we are trying to find a way for it to increase at a lower rate, such as two or three percent."

The Committee is faced with the challenge of balancing the budget, described by Martel as "an extremely difficult process," because for every addition to the budget something must be given up.

In an effort to find ways to both enhance the quality of life at Middlebury and lower the rate at which the comprehensive fee increases each year, the Committee has focused on the reduction of waste — such as food and electricity — as a way to make its goal more attainable.

Each year Middlebury throws out $300,000 worth of useable food. If food waste were significantly reduced, options such as Fair Trade coffee, the construction of new buildings and additional financial aid would be much more feasible without making certain sacrifices.

Last Thursday, the members of the Comprehensive Fee Committee held an open forum in the Ross Fireplace Lounge from 6 to 7:30 p.m. where students were encouraged to express their opinions. Only two students—Mike Ives '06 and Alyssa Jumars '06— attended, both advocates of having Fair Trade coffee in the dining halls. The goal of the forum was to get as much student input as possible, as the purpose of the Committee is to represent students as accurately as possible to the Board of Trustees. Members of the Committee wanted to find out: What are the students' priorities? What do students want added to the budget? What are students willing to give up?

At the meeting, Kilchevsky said, "We wanted to get as much student input as possible." But with only two students present, information was difficult to obtain. The Committee does not yet know what exactly its proposal will entail, and although time is running out, some still remains to gather student input. Members of the Committee encourage students to share their opinions, suggestions and priorities until Feb. 13, so that they can represent the student body to the Board of Trustees.

Paine Seeks to 'Brand' Middlebury

Looking to Turn the Heart and Soul of Middlebury's Identity into a Selling Point

By Ben Salkowe
Staff Writer

"We want to communicate the soul of Middlebury," Director of College Communications Margaret Paine '79 exclaimed in her cozy office tucked away on the third floor of Meeker House. As a Middlebury alumna with the job of sharpening and unifying all College communications, Paine is an upbeat and curious administrator, roaming the campus to find its heart.

Her approach is based on the common marketing strategy of "branding." Defined by a professional journal for college advancement programs, this is "a process that enables one company or institution to differentiate its products and services from those offered by all of its competitors." That is, why should a high school senior, potential faculty member, parent or alum choose Middlebury for their education, job or money?

The tactic has been long used in marketing. In fact, Paine's research is based, in part, on the writings of Scott Bedbury, the man behind such brands as Nike and Starbucks. But increasingly the idea of "brands" is being adapted by colleges to sharpen their images and define their attractions to potential consumers.

The search for the Middlebury Brand began two years ago, when the College launched a communications audit to review the institution's many disconnected publications. These ranged from the viewbook and College magazine to events calendars and the College handbook. According to Paine, "The only thing they really had in common was that we had a great campus." That, she believes, is not a strong enough selling point to differentiate the College from its competition.

The solution was to organize a more central communications office that would bring "coherence and cohesiveness" to the College publications. To do this, the College created Paine's current position, director of College Communications, and she is now overseeing all College publications.

Since arriving in March 2003, Paine has been working to round up the many separate publications coming out of the campus. She has engaged in "strategic communications planning" which will ultimately lead all of the publications to deliver what she calls "a common essence and understanding of Middlebury."

The plan calls for six steps: define our brand, set goals for varied audiences (applications from prospectives, support from donors), develop the messages for those audiences, select the tools to deliver the messages (Web site, publications, mailings) and finally implement and evaluate.

Since last fall, Paine has been working on that first step — defining the Middlebury brand. She was very clear, however, that this is not the commercializing of Middlebury. "Branding is just a buzz word," she said. But by having a strong and clearly defined brand she believes people will be more likely to choose Middlebury and more certain about their choice.

Before going out to define the Middlebury brand, Paine researched brand identities and developed a workshop through which she could bring to groups on campus and try to determine why they were a part of the Middlebury community. "I looked at the elements of a strong brand and devised exercises that would elicit answers defining the essence of Middlebury," she said. She refined the workshop with the help of another Middlebury alumnus who works with brand identities in the corporate field.

The workshop she developed delves into that elusive question: What brings together thousands of people in the middle of cold, rural Vermont?

So far she has worked with the Alumni Board, the Trustees, Community Council and the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB). She plans to visit the Student Government Association (SGA), International Students Organization, athletic programs and faculty members in the near future.

"The workshops have been really helpful in identifying and helping me to articulate the Middlebury 'brand'," said Paine. "People have been very generous with their time and have offered great insights into the essence of Middlebury."

Contrary to those who resent and claim never to look at statistics and college rankings, Paine uses them in addition to her interviews. Studying what students chose Middlebury over, and vice versa, helps her to understand what are perceived as Middlebury's strengths and weaknesses. "Rankings are useful in defining our competition for prospective students," she said. "Most colleges are conscious of those rankings, and Middlebury is too, because rankings have an influence on the people we want to reach."

Paine noted that whereas the College has been a longtime competitor with its New England peers, it is also now competing increasingly with schools such as Georgetown. This trend reflects an important characteristic of the Middlebury brand. Although Georgetown and Middlebury are very distinct institutions, they both share renowned International Studies programs. "Even though we're different in a number of other ways," Paine said, "we're starting to see more people applying to both schools."

Paine reviews such popular rankings as *U.S. News: America's Best Colleges*, but is the Middlebury brand really five schools worse than Amherst and three better than Bowdoin?

This is where Paine believes the newfound Middlebury brand will compete against being turned into a statistic. "The stronger and more consistent we are in expressing the College's identity, the more likely that prospective students and their parents will understand the College's remarkable character, quality and breadth, rather than relying on rankings and guide books," she hopes.

This is where branding comes into application. Already, based on her findings, Paine is making changes to traditional publications. "We found that the images in the mind section of the viewbook didn't convey the extraordinary quality of the faculty and the intellectual excitement of the College. Although this year we are updating rather than entirely redoing the viewbook, we are making some changes to photos and including a section on recent graduates and their faculty mentors," she said.

This is only the beginning. "Branding is just really one piece of creating strategic communications planning for the College, it's an early piece," according to Paine. The entire process will run into next fall when the Office of Communications hopes to launch a redesigned College Web site.

In the meantime, Paine has a full schedule as she conducts workshops across campus, meets with her team to review current and upcoming projects and prepares for her 25th class reunion in June.

It is a full schedule, but not all that different from when she was on campus as a student. Paine was the MCAB Social Chair and served on the Judicial Council, the SGA and the Education council. She was also involved in theater, *The Middlebury Campus* and the College radio station. She appreciated the enormous opportunities she found at the College and was honored to return.

> The stronger and more consistent we are in expressing the College's identity, the more likely that prospective students and their parents will understand the College's remarkable character, quality and breadth, rather than relying on rankings and guide books.
>
> — Margaret Paine

Courtesy

Margaret Paine is helping to shape Middlebury College's image.

New Web Site to Launch This Fall

"The Web is one of the principle tools we have for communicating with all of our audiences," said Margaret Paine '79, director of College Communications. With that in mind, her staff has begun the process of overhauling the College Web site to make it more attractive and functional.

"We're going to do the discovery work for it over the winter and spring and get a design so then we can build it over the summer," she said.

For the job, they have hired BigBad, Inc., "one of the Northeast's largest privately held interactive agencies." according to their Web site (www.bigbad.com). Ty Glasgow, BigBad's president, said "The word is spreading quickly in the higher education community about the results that we are achieving for our clients."

BigBad specializes in Web sites for higher education institutions. Some of their recent clients include Harvard's Business and Law School, Pace University Law School, Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Providence College, Roger Williams University and MIT Entrepreneurship Center.

The new College Web site will be more effective in communicating the College's beauty, as well as the Middlebury Brand that Paine is working to identify. Most importantly, it will make it easier for members of the College to access information quickly and effectively.

The office of College Communications is seeking input from members of the College community, but is still in the early stages of the process. The project is being managed by the College Web Editor Tim Etchells '74, and they expect to launch sometime next fall.

— BEN SALKOWE

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

by Erich Kahner

After a three-week romp around variegated and vibrant southern Europe, a 10 skirt around the outermost edges of Scotland and six months of puttering around St. Andrews between pubs and classes, the 15 hours that I work every week in the kitchen at Papa Joe's Restaurant in St. Andrews remains my most memorable cultural experience.

My boss, a 27-year-old Scotsman with an undergraduate degree in management, penciled me in for a Saturday — the busiest day of the week — for my first shift. That night you could say that I was thrown into the fire, in both senses of the term. (Note: Do not touch any surface that hisses.) Claustrophobia defined the tight quarters of the kitchen, which resembled an elongated prison cell in its dimensions. I apprenticed Alan, a local around 40, who awarded me undue patience that night. Alan showed me how to work the Hatch, which is perhaps one of the most stressful positions in an already high-stress profession. The Hatchman prepares the plates and traffics the food between the head chefs and the wait staff. Basically, I'm the one person in the kitchen who has some obligation to everyone else who works in the restaurant, and if food doesn't go out quickly enough, or if it goes to the wrong table, whoever deals out the wrath elects me as his whipping boy.

That next Saturday I was on my own, and without Alan shielding me I felt the whip. The short, stocky Head Chef Stuart commands the kitchen like an inflated Napoleon. I, being a conscientious and sympathetic college student, felt that Stuart shouldn't have chided me as much as he did that night. So I let him know that, whereupon Lesson Number One presented itself — in the blue-collar, world it's always best to just shut up and do your job. After work that night, I weighed this lesson against my wounded pride, and decided to weather the storm at Papa Joe's. It was the right decision.

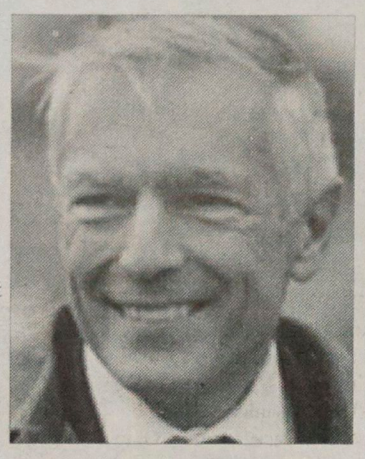
After four weeks in the kitchen work didn't seem as hard and the accents weren't as thick. All of a sudden I could feel the camaraderie. Where I was once insecure and uncertain, I was now the fourth member in a quartet that rapped along with Eminem and 50 Cent on the radio. Work became fun. On slow days we laugh and share in a vernacular that is almost exclusively sexual innuendo. On Saturdays, we shadow box and exchange wordless, elaborate handshakes to curb the adrenaline that rushes when the music is blaring, and we're the maestros of the controlled chaos that is going on around us.

Now I'm friends with a group of guys whose rough hands, tired faces and sense of self make them all seem older than they really are. Even Stuart and I have come to a wordless truce that wavers between deserved respect and lukewarm friendship. Which brings me to big Lesson Number Two — despite an ocean of separation, cultures can be the same in many ways. I would be surprised to step into most kitchens in America and find any great difference in the people, aside from their accents.

AT A GLANCE:
THE DEMOCRATIC CONTENDERS

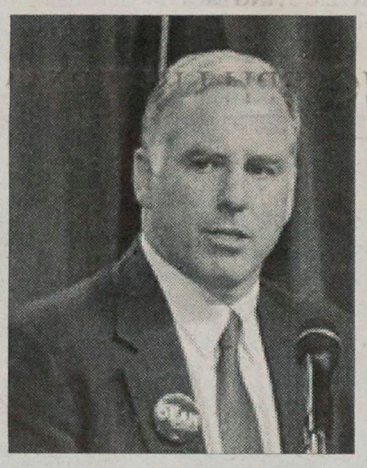
Candidate Profiles by Virginia Harper
SOURCE: CNN.com

WESLEY CLARK



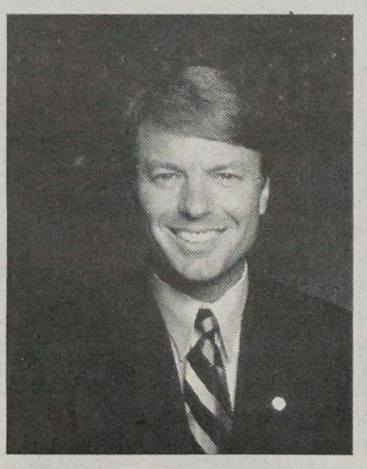
AGE: 59
EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree, U.S. Military Academy, 1966; Master's Degree, Oxford University, 1968.
PROS: Clark is by far the most qualified militarily. He graduated first in his class from West Point, going on to Vietnam and was awarded the Silver Star, a Purple Heart and two Bronze Stars for his service there. After serving in the first Gulf War and acting as a negotiator for the Dayton Peace Accord, Clark became NATO's Supreme Allied Commander in 1997 and directed NATO's air attacks against Yugoslavia.
CONS: Seeking the Democratic nomination is Clark's first ever bid for elected office. He also entered the race later than the other candidates, leaving most voters largely unaware of his qualifications.
INTERESTING FACT: Clark and Bill Clinton simultaneously studied at Oxford as Rhodes Scholars, becoming good friends. Clinton turned to him often during his presidency, especially in his second term, for advice.

HOWARD DEAN



AGE: 55
EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree, Yale University, 1971; Medical Degree, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, 1978.
PROS: Though Dean unexpectedly rose to the position of governor in 1991 after the sudden death of then-governor Richard Snelling, he gave up his medical practice in order to turn around Vermont's $64 million deficit. In 12 years, he managed to cut taxes, turn the deficit into a surplus, provide health care for nearly all children under 18, push environmental causes and reduce Vermont's rate of child abuse by half. Known for his candid speeches and leftist ideas, Dean's signing of Vermont's civil unions law brought him national attention.
CONS: Other than Rev. Sharpton and Clark, Dean is the only candidate without experience in Washington. In 2000, he was barely re-elected governor, and his fiery, shoot-from-the-hip style often gets him in trouble.
INTERESTING FACT: Evidence of his popular campaign, Dean raised $3.5 million dollars in only eight days last summer.

JOHN EDWARDS



AGE: 50
EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree, North Carolina State University, 1974; Law Degree, University of North Carolina, 1977.
PROS: A former trial lawyer from North Carolina, John Edwards took his convincing courtroom speeches to the Senate floor in 1998 and quickly became a noticeable figure in the Senate chambers as he articulately argued for Clinton during his impeachment trial, against Bush and his war policy, and for a patient's bill of rights. Edwards has gained popularity nationwide for his youthful ideas, and he is often thought to be a breath of fresh air because of his recent move to Washington.
CONS: Critics find fault in Edwards' lack of political experience. Some question his history as a trial lawyer who largely represented plaintiffs in personal injury cases.
INTERESTING FACT: Edwards' most famous case as a trial lawyer was $25 million decision for a nine-year-old girl who was severely deformed by a faulty swimming pool drain.

Is Middlebury College a Howard Dean Campus?

BY CAROLINE STAUFFER | NEWS EDITOR

Julia Randall

A crowd of Middlebury students gathers in Portsmouth, N.H. to welcome Dean on Jan. 20 when he returned from the Iowa Caucus.

This winter, dorm doors, windows, cars, Nalgene bottles and ski jackets have been seen adorned with "Howard Dean for America" paraphernalia. But where are the Kerry, Edwards and Clark supporters? Their campaign posters are practically nowhere to be found.

Given that Dean is the former governor of Vermont, the fact that supporting Dean has come in vogue is to some extent to be expected. However, *The Middlebury Campus* sought to determine if Dean really reigns supreme in Middlebury's political spirit, or if Dean supporters are merely the most visible among a spectrum of political opinions. The results of a campus-wide survey show that Dean claims drastically more Middlebury support than any other candidate. Eighty-eight out of 232 students surveyed said they supported Dean while 67 support all other candidates, either Democrat or Republican. Forty-seven percent of all females surveyed were Dean supporters, as were 28 percent of males. Sixty-three of the 88 Dean supporters identified themselves as Democrats, three as Republicans and 22 claimed to be unaffiliated or affiliated with another party.

In spite of the Middlebury Dean craze, there are still a number of students backing other democratic candidates, while some students plan to vote for the incumbent George W. Bush next November.

Chris Shields '04 spent his Winter Term and summer zealously working for the John Kerry campaign in Dover, Mass. Shields spent the first week and a half of the term going door to door in negative 10-degree weather obtaining the necessary signatures to put Kerry's name on the Vermont primary ballot.

Despite his enthusiasm, Shields believes support for Kerry on campus is "for all intents and purposes non-existent." While *The Campus* poll found that approximately nine percent of Middlebury students consider Kerry their first-choice candidate, this number is very small when contrasted with the Dean presence, especially considering the acceleration the Kerry campaign has enjoyed nationally following his sweep of the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries.

"The whole campus, as apathetic as it is, was caught up in the Dean-chic movement," Shields said. "It was cool and popular to support Howard Dean, and it was wicked easy to throw a sticker on your Nalgene without thinking about who he was or looking at all at his record." Shields shuns Dean on account of his "horrific record" on environmental and gun safety issues, lack of applicable experience and because Vermont gets 27 percent of its budget from the federal government.

Fewer Middlebury students still support candidates such as John Edwards, Dennis Kucinich, Wesley Clark, Al Sharpton or Joseph Lieberman.

"I honestly don't think Edwards has much support on this campus, or at least those who do recognize that the need to win the South and Edward's potential ability to do that is overshadowed by the overwhelming support for Dean and the bunch of students that rally for Kerry," David Freedman '06 said.

Although Middlebury is often deemed a politically apathetic campus, 82 percent of students surveyed plan to vote in the upcoming presidential election. Many of those have a firm opinion when asked their political views — only 33 percent claim to be undecided so early in the election year — and some are directly involved in campaigns.

According to *The Campus* Survey, 33 percent of Middlebury students consider foreign policy the most important issue in choosing a presidential candidate. Education, civil liberties and civil rights and the economy were also among the most important issues to students.

Calvin Garner '06 is a passionate Dean supporter and among three Middlebury students and four alumni working for the Dean campaign in the Seacoast Office in Portsmouth, N.H., this winter.

Even with the visible amount of Dean support on campus, Garner is still unsatisfied with the political situation back at Middlebury. "As for the Dean presence on campus, I feel that it is there, but I have not noticed any real organization," he said. "That is something I would be interested in trying to jumpstart when I get back on campus. I think that, for the most part, students at Middlebury understand how important the political process is, but I feel that somehow there is a hesitation when it comes to getting involved."

Greg Petrics '05 supports a candidate who is not only rarely mentioned at Middlebury, but who remains in the background of the national media campaign buzz as well.

Petrics sees Dennis Kucinich's campaign platform as immensely important to college students on several levels. "Directly, Kucinich identifies that the federal government spends only 2.9 percent of its budget on education, and he wishes to greatly increase this number so that every student in the country receives a fair education and ample financial aid as they enter their college careers," he said. "Indirectly (in regards to college students), Kucinich sees the shrinking job market and the consequential economic drain that it is having on today's workforce and soon to be workforce — in college."

Shields cites Kerry's impeccable voting record on issues such as the environment, women's rights, gay rights and gun control as his reason for supporting the Democrat. He also views Kerry's education policies as an important draw for college voters. "After graduation, kids who are willing to give two years of service for their country through programs such as City Year and the like would receive four years of in-state tuition paid. No other candidate came nearly that close," he said.

Freedman was drawn to Edwards in part due to his humble origins. "In an era of politics where there is so much scrutiny and so much more of a focus on a presidential candidate is as a person rather than a politician, on what he believes is moral rather than where he stands on controversial policies, and on what party they are from rather than what they will do to improve our nation, John Edwards is the kind of potential nominee that makes me breathe a sigh of relief," Freedman said.

As the election year unfolds, it remains to be seen whether the Dean mania will continue and extend beyond the Middlebury bubble, or faze out as yet another passing political craze. It also remains to be seen whether political engagement on the whole will spike as Election 2004 nears.

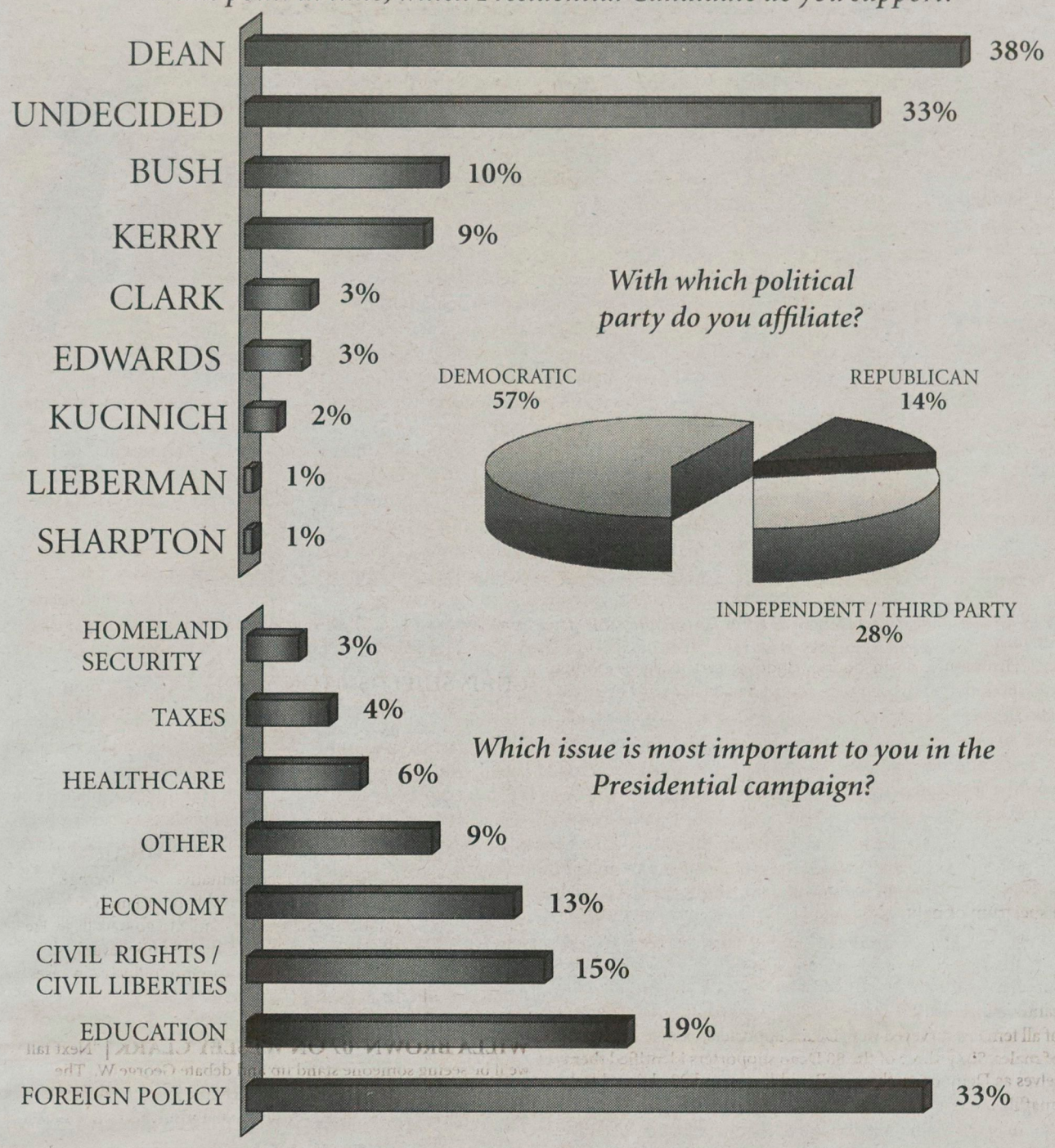
CHRIS SHIELDS '04 ON JOHN KERRY | "I'm supporting Kerry because of his record. He's pushed a remarkably progressive agenda since he was elected and has experience that is without a doubt the most comprehensive and complete of any of the candidates. As *The Concord Monitor* said in their endorsement of him "he's ready to be president tomorrow."

DAVID FREEDMAN '06 ON JOHN EDWARDS | "Unlike Bush who claims to be representative of the average citizen, Edwards is actually from a relatively poor family, went to public schools, and was the first in his family to go to college. He lived the American dream and has become an unbelievably successful trial lawyer by going after the insurance industry in cases of major medical malpractices."

WILLA BROWN '07 ON WESLEY CLARK | "Next fall we'll be seeing someone stand up and debate George W. The person I want to see is a well spoken, charismatic, intelligent four star general who makes Bush in a flight suit seem like Bush in a clown suit."

THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY POLL

At this point in time, which Presidential Candidate do you support?



With which political party do you affiliate?

Which issue is most important to you in the Presidential campaign?

Results based on 232 Middlebury College Students surveyed between Jan. 23-26

A Look at the Left from the Right

By Daniel Phillips
News Editor

Every eligible member of the Middlebury College Republicans will be looking for no other name than President George W. Bush in the voting booths during Election 2004. But with the many Democratic candidates vying to take on Bush this November, the College conservatives are still undecided as to whom they think will get the chance.

The Republicans find it troubling, however, when Middlebury students boasting "Dean for America" patches or pins are unable to answer a question that first-year club member Keith Williams has asked on numerous occasions: "So what does Dean stand for?"

President of the College Republicans Tabby Connor '05 acknowledges that Dean is an "extremely passionate candidate" with a campaign that is "really appealing for college kids because it's very easy to help out with him." Connor has already noticed posters on campus advertising "The Howard Dean bus," to New Hampshire.

She suspects that Election 2004 is the first political experience for many of the younger generation who are only jumping on Dean's bandwagon because he has been the frontrunner.

Drew Pugsley '04 added, "It is very important to note that [Dean] is from Vermont — he's the hometown hero." Pugsley does not see many unifying issues in Dean's campaign. "He takes an issue and decides what is good for him at that particular time," he said. Connor explained how she could conceive of Middlebury as a Dean campus because many former Middlebury students work for the campaign, including Ginny Hunt '03, a former SGA president who now organizes youth events for the Dean campaign.

Williams sees how Middlebury could be drawn to Dean because he "runs a grassroots campaign, focused more on advertising than issues," he said.

Nevertheless, many people left Montpelier last Tuesday morning, bound for Boston to work for John Kerry following a surprise showing at the Iowa caucus.

Pugsley sees Kerry as a "run-of-the-mill Democrat…who tows the party line on virtually every issue." However, he noted that Kerry is "not being particularly negative, which could be a smart strategy."

Pugsley continued his commentary of the candidates with John Edwards. "He's young and has some potential," said Pugsley, claiming that Edwards is "certainly further to the left than Kerry or Lieberman." He also sees Edwards as "fairly principled — the problem he has had is that he's been lagging in fundraising, and because of the Dean phenomenon." Pugsley noted that after a strong showing in Iowa, Edwards should be given more attention as a "level-headed, reasonable candidate," he said.

Both Connor and Pugsley agree that Joseph Lieberman is abundantly the most conservative of the candidates. "He is not occupying his own space," claimed Connor. Pugsley still does not see Lieberman "coming out of the shadow of Election 2000 running very hard."

Turning to Wesley Clark, the Club leaders acknowledged that his military background will help him immensely — as well as his relationship with the Clintons. "Everybody loves that," said Pugsley. But when looking at Clark's campaign, Pugsley does not see many foreign policy differences to President Bush's platform, which a large percentage of Americans are currently satisfied with.

Thus Pugsley sees the next election focusing much more on domestic policy issues, and he does not suspect the Democrats traditional platform of higher taxes, a larger government and more social programs will triumph.

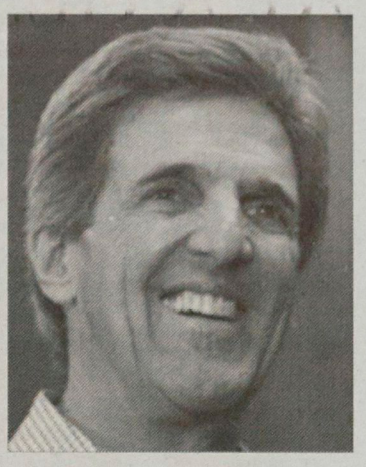
Neither Connor nor Pugsley had anything to say about Al Sharpton. "He's not even running a campaign," attested Connor. Both agreed that Kucinich speaks for himself.

"It's a really hard time to be a Democratic candidate — they are all reactionary about Bush's campaign," said Connor.

"GDP growth will be high again for the next quarter," noted Pugsley. "Bush has a set of issues he believes in and sticks with — that makes him a very strong leader."

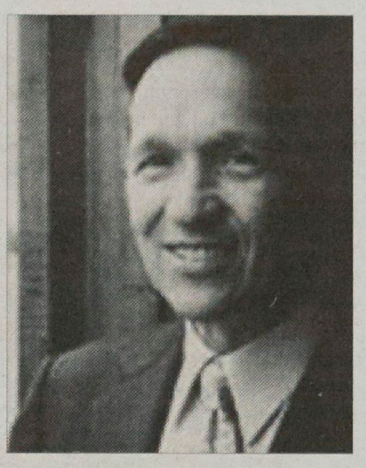
Connor added, "Unless anything catastrophic happens, [Bush] doesn't need to do much. Our concern and level of involvement will focus more on local elections that offer us more opportunities for direct involvement," she said.

JOHN KERRY



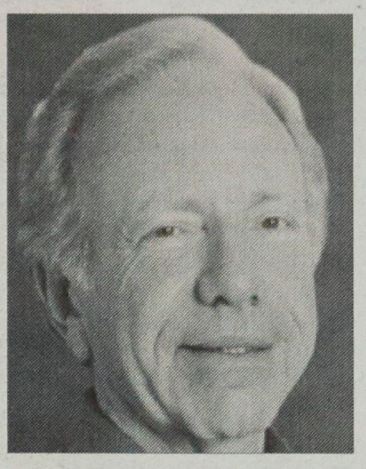
AGE: 60
EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree, Yale University, 1966; Law Degree, Boston College, 1976.
PROS: John Kerry brings 20 years of experience as the junior Senator from Massachusetts to his campaign, as well as military service in Vietnam. Recently, Kerry has sharply criticized Bush and his war policy, comparing many of the administration's policies to mistakes made in Vietnam.
CONS: Senator Kerry often lacks enthusiasm and is seen as a dull and unappealing candidate to many Democrats who are looking for a fresh nominee to beat President Bush.
INTERESTING FACT: Kerry's first appearance in the Senate was as a 27 year-old Vietnam Veteran who testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee against U.S. policy in Vietnam.

DENNIS KUCINICH



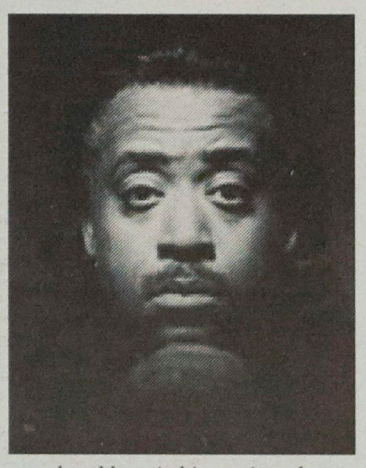
AGE: 57
EDUCATION: Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Case Western Reserve University, 1973.
PROS: Kucinich has a solid political background in Ohio as mayor of Cleveland, state senator and most recently a congressional representative. His genuine populist, blue-collar background is appealing to voters, and he has won support as a strong proponent of sustainability and global environmental protection.
CONS: Kucinich does not measure up to some candidates in terms of experience, and his progressive policies put him too far to the left on the political spectrum to garner a significant amount of votes.
INTERESTING FACT: By age 17, Kucinich and his family had lived in 21 different places, including in two cars.

JOSEPH LIEBERMAN



AGE: 61
EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree, Yale University, 1964; Law Degree, Yale University, 1967.
PROS: Lieberman has major experience in Washington as a Connecticut Senator for the past 14 years. He is the ranking Democrat on the Governmental Affairs Committee and throughout his time there he has stressed independence from political parties — criticizing and supporting both Republicans and Democrats and Presidents Clinton and Bush. He aided Martin Luther King Jr. and went to Mississippi to help African American citizens register to vote.
CONS: Many Democrats who will vote in primaries are turned off by Lieberman's strong criticism of his own party and his fellow candidates.
INTERESTING FACT: During the Clinton scandal, Lieberman very adamantly spoke against the President, calling him disgraceful and damaging to the country.

AL SHARPTON



AGE: 49
EDUCATION: Tilden High School, Brooklyn, 1972; Brooklyn College (dropped out)
PROS: Political analysts have called the Reverend Al Sharpton the most entertaining speaker of all of the Democratic candidates. He takes aim at President Bush and his policies. Sharpton has based his campaign upon a call for racial equality, education and health care rights.
CONS: Sharpton's confrontational demeanor has caused several problems in his previous three attempts to win an elective office. He was charged in 1989 and 1993 with felony tax evasion and failing to file a New York state tax return.
INTERESTING FACT: Sharpton often notes his opinion that Democrats are generally too conservative; "I do believe that the Party has a bunch of elephants running around in donkey clothes," he recently said in an interview.

Dean Speaks in N. H.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about was a particularly zealous speech Dean gave in Iowa after conceding defeat. That speech became famous over the next few days, overshadowing the late night rally and eventually leading to a loss for Dean in New Hampshire as well.Despite his recent setbacks, Dean remains the clear favorite amongs Middlebury students, perhaps due to both his home state being Vermont as well as his campaign's strategy of targeting young voters. A poll conducted over the weekend by *The Middlebury Campus* shows Dean capturing the support of 38 percent of students surveyed (See "Is Middlebury a Dean Campus?" on pages 4 & 5).

Several Middlebury students have decided to go a step further and are either working or interning with the Dean campaign. In addition to Garner, David Temple '05 decided to take a year away from Middlebury to work for Dean. Alumnus Michael Silberman '03 is in charge of the campaign's use of Meetup.com, an online service organizing monthly meetings for people with common interests. The campaign and the Web site received national media coverage early last summer as Dean meetings became by far the largest interest group, sparking an internet-based grassroots movement unprecedented in American electoral politics.

The two highest ranking members of last year's Student Government Association (SGA) have also signed on with the campaign. The 2002-2003 SGA President Ginny Hunt '03 is co-director of Dean's youth-targeted campaign project "Generation Dean," while former Student Co-Chair of the Community Council Ben LaBolt '03 is the Seacoast Regional Field Director at the campaign office near Portsmouth.

Garner cites Dean's passion as his primary reason for deciding to join his campaign. "He was the only candidate who seemed to want to beat Bush because it was right for the country, not just because he wanted to be president," wrote Garner in an e-mail to *The Campus*. His daily functions as an intern included going door-to-door to speak with potential voters and working to build a network of volunteers that helped bring Dean supporters to the election sites on the day of the primary.

LaBolt was at the rally along with Garner directing volunteers and converting the airplane hanger into the stage for a political rally.

Clearly tired and a little demoralized after the evening's disappointing results from Iowa, LaBolt nevertheless expressed optimism for the future of the campaign. "I'm going to die from a heart-attack in a few years because of it, but I really love this work," he said.

J-Term Debate Heats Up EAC Agenda

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The two-semester system is a drastic change from the present system. Semesters would be 14-weeks long and students would need 32 credits to graduate. Fall break would be shortened by a day and Thanksgiving break extended to a full week. The spring semester would start in mid-January, with a three-day weekend for Winter Carnival and a weeklong spring break. Graduation would take place one to two weeks earlier than it currently does. The teaching load for faculty will be five instructional units over the fall and spring terms.

Although the modified Winter Term is attractive in that it preserves the different academic rhythm of the current system, requiring students to take only two out of the four terms has raised many concerns. It gives students with AP credits an advantage and winter sports athletes would be required to enroll in all four J-terms if they intend to participate. Additionally, some faculty members feel that it would take away from what Winter Term stands for. "It goes against the idea that there is academic merit to Winter Term if you let students take Winter Term off," said Murray Dry, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science, at an open faculty meeting held Jan. 23.

Opponents to J-term cite decreased academic rigor as one of the main disadvantages of the four-week semester in any form. The description of the course's workload will ostensibly standardize the academic rigor of courses by allowing students to see what is expected of them, as well as letting professors see what their peers plan for their courses. "We hope to reduce the sense of inequity that is currently felt by students and faculty," said Professor of English Alison Byerly, dean of faculty and vice president for academic affairs.

However faculty who have seen the progression of Winter Term since its implementation in 1969 see little hope in yet another revision. "I just don't see that the little tinkerings we've done [in the past] have added up to much," said Carol Rifelj, Fulton Professor of French.

"A 35-year-old experiment that isn't working isn't an experiment any more and instead of reviving it [we] should let it go," said Neil Waters, Kawashima Professor of Japanese Studies.

Eliminating J-term, however, would take away a valuable part of the Middlebury experience, agree many faculty. "I have found more evidence that there are more experiences of value in January than in the regular semester when students characterize themselves as being immersed in the material," said John Emerson, Charles A. Dana Professor of Mathematics.

The EAC predicts that the faculty will vote on the proposals sometime in March. There will be a two-part vote, first between the two proposed calendars and then the winner of that vote will go up against the status quo. The time that any changes to the calendar will be implemented will depend on which system is adopted. The EAC believes that both of the proposals are superior to the current situation and the alternative that the faculty favors should supplant the status quo.

The Student Government Association, in reviewing the EAC's proposal, has passed a resolution voicing unanimous support for the modified J-term proposal over the two-semester system, without comparing either to the status quo. EAC members have seen no clear preference among members of the faculty. "We [on the EAC] hope that faculty will pick the alternative that will add to the best academic experience for everyone," said Priscilla Bremser, Professor of mathematics.

Magazine Flounders with Figures

By Daniel Phillips
NEWS EDITOR

When *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine ranked Middlebury College the most expensive institution in the nation — listing the cost after non-need-based aid as $46,682 in their January issue — they were wrong. In fact, the writer of the article, Brian Knestout, obtained the comprehensive fee of $39,532 from *Peterson's* magazine but neglected to contact the College for information and made the mistake of adding an additional 22 percent to the fee to account for room and board, which had already been factored into the total cost.

"We have a comprehensive fee that includes room and board and tuition in one package," noted Director of Institutional Research and Analysis Becky Brodigan. "Whenever people ask us, we have to tell them," she said.

Brodigan estimates that every year, her office fills out 25 to 30 annual surveys that rank institutions nationwide, *Peterson's* being one of them. She made it clear that the Office of Institutional Research never received such a survey from *Kiplinger's*. Brodigan also noted that there is a link on the office's Web site to the Common Data Set, which is accessible to the public and provides a standard set of figures for enrollment, admissions and financial aid.

Brodigan added that three other institutions — Bates, Colby and Connecticut College — all had similar erroneous miscalculations for their comprehensive fees on the cost ranking list.

Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit caught wind of the printed mishap himself when he received a call from Mike Schoenfeld, dean of enrollment planning. When Benoit contacted *Kiplinger's* editorial office in December when the issue hit newsstands, the writer of the article was out of the office. Benoit said that it took about three weeks to receive confirmation from the magazine that the data would be changed. *Kiplinger's* amended the figure on their Web site a week later and agreed to print a correction in their March issue.

"There are a lot of things wrong with the way they dealt with this," said Benoit. "The problem is that they still refuse to acknowledge the compensation will affect the ranking. We should have gone up in terms of ranking since our cost went down by $7,100," he pointed out. Middlebury still remains at 98 out of 100 for Cost Rank under Financial Measures on *Kiplinger's* Web site.

Benoit was particularly concerned at having Middlebury published as the most expensive institution in the nation as "it could conceivably be damaging to admissions prospects. Some people on alumni boards are furious," he said.

However, Schoenfeld feels, "It

can't affect admissions very much. The beginning of the process is usually more important," he said.

"We've had a lot of good press with respect to surveys this year," added Schoenfeld.

He noted that *Kiplinger's* is only one of four or five surveys available to prospective students — noting *U.S. News & World Report* and *The New York Times* as more popular choices.

"In the end, with respect to buy, people are going to [come to Middlebury] based on financial aid packages," he claimed.

Last year, more applicants accepted aid packages than any previous year, according to Schoenfeld. He explained that there was a 46 percent yield on offers to non-aid applicants, but a 49 percent yield with aid-offered packages.

Superman, Spouse to Address Grads

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tors initially feared that he may not live, let alone regain sensation in a significant part of his body and breathe without a respirator. His struggle offers a profile in courage and unrelenting optimism.

"We've been through and continue to go through life with unexpected challenges and equally unexpected gifts," said Dana in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*.

Her remark has the makings of a commencement message. Dana remains unsure of how she'll share the podium with her husband — "We've ruled out speaking simultaneously," she joked — but she can pinpoint a likely theme.

"There will be turns in the road that you cannot possibly anticipate," she said. "Some will initially seem like setbacks, but once you dive in they can be some of the most extraordinary experiences."

Dana's co-address to graduates comes exactly 20 years after she marched across the platform to collect her own Middlebury degree. She studied English literature with a concentration in Italian, and was a "few credits shy" of a double major in theater.

Her theater experience would ultimately chart the course for her professional career. She shares with Christopher a tradition of accomplishment on both stage and screen.

Dana most recently starred in the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival's rendition of "The Crucible," adding to acting credits that also include the Broadway comedy "More to Love." She has also guest starred on "Law and Order" and "All My Children" and had recurring roles on HBO's "Oz" and CBS' "Feds."

Christopher's experience is

> There will be turns in the road that you cannot possibly anticipate. Some will initially seem like setbacks, but once you dive in they can be some of the most extraordinary experiences.
>
> — Dana Morosini Reeve '84

equally varied, but his portrayal of Superman remains one of his most well-known achievements. "He will be forever remembered as Superman," said Professor of English John Bertolini, who was Dana's undergraduate advisor. "He brought a sense of humor to the part … and had a twinkle in his eye as he impersonated this ridiculous character."

Christopher launched his stage career opposite Katherine Hepburn in the Broadway show "A Matter of Gravity," followed by his title role in the 1978 motion picture "Superman" and its sequels. His film credits also include "Deathtrap," "Somewhere in Time" and "The Bostonian," among many others.

He ultimately found his Louis Lane in Dana, and the couple wed in 1992. They have an 11-year-old son, Will, who will likely attend the College commencement ceremonies.

Dana told *The Campus* that her family has had to embrace a new way of living since Christopher's accident. "Yet in some ways it's very much the same," she admitted, mentioning Will's enthusiasm for hockey and his recent third-place finish in the school geography bee.

Christopher's health, however, remains an ever-present concern. He was among the first to undergo a procedure to implant a pacemaker in his diaphragm muscles. He is now able to breathe without a respirator — an accomplishment he shared publicly by agreeing to conduct major media interviews without the machine's assistance.

"The day-to-day challenges are a constant," Dana said. Christopher now faces infections that arose from the surgery. Such challenges are part and parcel of a spinal chord injury, according to Dana. Immobility is one of many consequences — but certainly not the only one. Skin legions, pneumonia and infections all pose threats.

Both Christopher and Dana have published books documenting their experience, and both routinely take to the lecture circuit. They share "lessons from lives that took turns we couldn't possibly expect," she said. The couple also advocates increased funding for paralysis research.

Christopher has been a vocal supporter of experimental — and often controversial — research and treatment. In addition to the serving as chairman of the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Foundation, he puts a very public face on the plight of mobility impaired people.

Dana recalled watching the ESPN Sports Center segment on Butch Varno, a mobility impaired Middlebury resident who College athletes have traditionally picked up at his apartment and transported to football and basketball games.

"We had been debating whether we'd accept the very generous offer to speak, and that tipped the hand a bit in terms of Chris' point of view," she said. "It was some commonality to latch on to."

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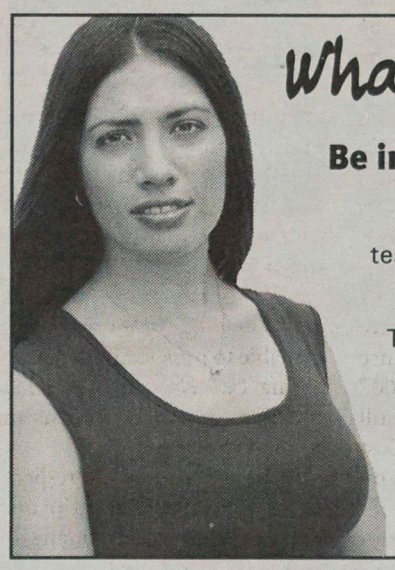

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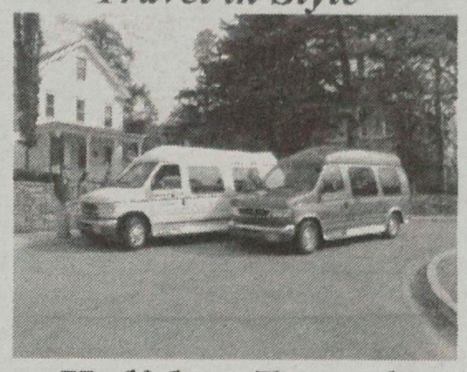

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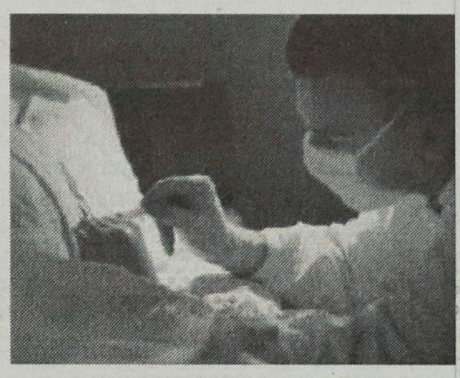

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RURAL REALITIES

By Crystal Belle

The term "windchill factor" meant nothing to me until I arrived at Middlebury College. I can honestly say that throughout my entire college career thus far, I have never really bothered to wear thermal underwear, fleece hats, mittens or snow boots. Miraculously, I have managed to endure the perpetual snowstorms within the confines of my New York City attire — fitted jeans, stylish winter coats and newsboy hats (worn tilted to the side). It's not that I don't care about my warmth — I do. However, I just can't deal with the hassle of wearing six layers of clothing in order to remain warm.

Being the no-nonsense type of woman that I am, I make sure that I usually wear gloves, sometimes one extra layer and my fluffy down coat. In New York, this is the typical "I'm trying to stay warm" uniform. However, that is not the case here in Vermont. I have learned that despite the number of layers one manages to pile on, there is still the possibility of freezing to DEATH!

So the question I pose to myself is, "Why undergo the dreadful process if frostbite is inevitable anyway? Therefore, I daringly leave my room scantily clad in my chic winter costume. No matter how hard I've tried to succumb to the Vermont concept of fashion — founded on clogs and Patagonia fleeces — my New Yorker mind simply won't let me. However, something has happened during J-term that has slightly turned me around — the Antarctica-like temperatures!

Suddenly, I wanted to wear a Patagonia fleece (although I don't own one). And there I was surfing for some snow boots. Me? It was like I had a sudden epiphany and realized that I have been poorly dressed for the past three years.

Now, in my fourth year here in Vermont, something in my conscience is telling me to stand up and protect my warmth! Now, calm down, I haven't changed all that much. Now I wear two layers as opposed to one, and occasionally I might forgo the newsboy look for a warmer fleece hat. The biggest problem is wearing tights under my jeans.

Every fashionable woman from the city wears jeans that are practically painted on. Nothing can fit under my jeans other than the skin on my legs, and socks — if I am lucky. What woman is willing to buy a size bigger just to ensure the possibility of wearing thermal underwear? I know that would never be me, and I am sure there are hundreds of women on this campus who would agree. Thus, I still don't wear layers under my jeans because they would never fit! I think that is a sufficient reason, don't you?

You know you live in Vermont when five degrees is considered a heat wave. Twenty degrees is definitely considered summertime. It sounds funny, but unfortunately it's true. Whenever I return to my Brooklyn abode, my family is often frightened by my desire to leave my coat behind when the weather hits a whopping 30 degrees. So, although I have remained poorly dressed for the brutal weather here, I have realized that anywhere else but here is WARM — even ANTARCTICA!

Subway Sandwich Artists Spread the Joy like Mayo

By Kelsey Rinehart
Staff Writer

Schuyler Van Horn

A sandwich artist at the new Subway prepares a delicious sandwich for an eager Middlebury resident.

Since Jan. 7, 2004, the Middlebury College community and town residents have been buying their club, meatball and tuna salad sandwiches at a new place. Subway, which currently boasts more restaurants than McDonald's in the United States and Canada and 20,471 in 72 countries, now serves its fare to the Middlebury community from a corner of the Village Court Plaza on Route 7 South.

Nestled next to the UPS store and Aubuchon Hardware, Subway has been embraced by the Middlebury community. Hannah Farrell, who owns the Subway along with her husband Keith, said that business has been booming and that the local reaction has been "all positive." Farrell explained, "There was a demand for it. McDonald's has been here for 20 years plus, but Subway has become very popular in the past couple years as a good, healthy alternative." Also, she and her husband once owned a shop on Main Street, "so people know us, and that helps business."

Subway's first customers were Sam Rodriguez '04, Andrew Carnabuci '06 and Bryan Goldberg '05. "They were in here at 9:30 in the morning and we didn't open 'til 10," Farrell remembered. "They came back for lunch and said they were coming back for dinner and they were going to bring friends with them. They were really proud. They gave us the dollar and signed it."

Carnabuci said, "I think Subway is a splendid addition to Middlebury's roster of eateries. Needless to say, the food was delicious. My first sandwich was a symphony of flavor!"

Goldberg, sharing his friend's enthusiasm, recalled, "We tried to get a sandwich on Monday, but the restaurant was not ready for us. They told us to come back on Wednesday for the grand opening. We one-upped them by showing up early enough to be the first customers ever. You should have seen the look on their faces," adding, "I ordered two sandwiches in order to commemorate the event."

Farrell suspects business from the College will be integral to Subway's success. "We're going to be considering opening until nine in the summertime to catch a lot of the College business," she said.

According to Farrell, the process of getting the Subway proposal through the zoning committee, which took almost a year, was a little trying. "At first, honestly it was discouraging. It didn't sound like it was going to go through at all, but we had a lot of support through the town," Farrell said. At the zoning meeting, "nobody showed up to oppose [Subway]. We had two people there to support us, actually."

Town Planner Fred Dunnington said that the opening of Subway did not go through any major hitches. He explained, "There are provisions in our town plan that say that franchise prototype architecture is not permitted," for example, "making an entire building to look like an Oscar Meyer Weiner." Dunnington stressed the importance of maintaining Middlebury's small-town character and feel, but noted that since Subway wasn't proposing any franchise architecture, there was no real issue — the tiny, inconspicuous shop is certainly no Wal-Mart. "There was no neighbor opposition," he said.

While neither UPS nor Aubuchon Hardware has noticed a significant change in business that could be accredited to Subway's opening, the restaurant has brought convenience. "They're a great neighbor," said an Aubuchon employee. "I can pop over on my lunch hour. They're really nice." She remarked that 2003 was a boom year for the hardware store because Middlebury residents, while frequenting a chain restaurant such as Subway, highly value small local businesses such as Aubuchon as irreplaceable assets.

Twenty-year Middlebury resident Tom Scanlon has a unique connection to the restaurant chain. "I ate one of the first sandwiches ever made," Scanlon said. "Ever." In 1965, Scanlon was a high school student in Bridgeport, Conn., and a friend of Fred Deluca, a recent high school graduate who had opened a little sandwich shop called Pete's Subs. "It was named after Dr. Peter Buck, who loaned him the money to start it," Scanlon said. Walking down Main Street, "I'd stop in and try different stuff he was doing, to give him an opinion," Scanlon remembered. Little did Scanlon or Deluca know that 40 years later, the local sandwich shop would be serving turkey clubs to the international community under the name of Subway.

Subway is now considering a deal in which students could bring their Middcards to get a 10 to 20 percent discount on a foot-long sub. Farrell hopes that the word will spread when students, faculty, and staff see Subway bags and cups floating around campus.

Watts Up with the Power in Middlebury?

By Katherine Doorley
Staff Writer

Temperatures so cold it hurts to breathe if you happen to walk outside — ah yes, the joys of going to school in Vermont during the winter. According to a press release from Governor James Douglas' '72 office last week, Middlebury students may have more to be concerned about than simply whether their freshly showered hair will freeze on the walk to Proctor, or how much alcohol they will need to consume in order to brave the cold and make it to Ridgeline.

Jason Gibbs, Douglas' press secretary, issued a statement last Thursday requesting that all Vermont residents be mindful of their energy use, as the extreme cold was enough to short the power grid because of a lack of natural gas to run the state's power plants. According to the statement, "Vermonters have done a great job in these past few days of extreme cold in responding to public conservation appeals from their utilities. Tonight and tomorrow the need is greater than ever to keep up the good work, shutting off unnecessary lights and appliances, delaying use of appliances until tomorrow and turning down the thermostat a few degrees." Losing power due to the temperature? Sounds a little extreme, so just how much of a threat is the cold to the power grid on which Middlebury operates and what actions is the town taking to ensure that a large-scale power outage doesn't occur?

Many of Vermont's power plants, like so many other buildings across the country are heated and operated using natural gas. In addition to an increase in demand for natural gas for heating homes and buildings during cold weather spurts, it also becomes more difficult to transport the gas. Due to the increase in demand and difficulties in supply, there is currently a shortage of natural gas for power generation purposes. For this reason, several Vermont power companies informed the Governor's office that there was the possibility of rolling blackouts across the state if the weather conditions continued.

One of these power plants affected by the natural gas shortage happens to be the plant serving the greater Middlebury area. Bill Finger, Middlebury's town manager, noted that during the recent cold spell the Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (CVPS), which provides the power to the region, had warned that rolling blackouts were likely.

According to Finger, a rolling blackout is a "planned power outage that affects a limited area for a limited period of time. By planning these outages, CVPS can lower the system-wide demand, while minimizing the duration of the outage for all its customers." In the case that CVPS decided it needed to institute rolling blackouts to conserve natural gas, the town's emergency action plan would go into effect. In this situation, the town would "prepare its emergency generators for service. [Preparing the generators] assures that the Municipal Gymnasium as an emergency shelter, and that emergency response services such as police and fire are not

Losing power due to the temperature? Sounds a little extreme, so just how much of a threat is the cold to the power grid?

interrupted. Water system pumps and sewer system pumps also have emergency generators to minimize threats to public health and the environment." Middlebury College also has emergency lighting that would enable students to see where they are going in the dorms in the case of a power outage striking campus.

As the cold weather continues, the demand for natural gas remains high, and the risks of a rolling blackout remains as well. In an effort to avoid losing power even for an hour during this dark, cold weather, students are encouraged to heed the recommendations of the Governor's office.

Turning off all unnecessary lights and electronic devices as well as ensuring all windows and doors are tightly closed and the shades are drawn at night, will conserve both energy and heat, therefore using less natural gas in the dorm and leaving more to run the state's power plants. Hopefully, these actions will ensure that although it is bitterly cold outside, Middlebury will still have bright, warm lights on inside throughout the next few weeks.

Albert Bitici

A Middlebury student braves the cold to warm up in Two Brothers' Tavern's last Tuesday night.

Cold Freezes Local Economy

Retail Sales Sluggish During Winter Months

By Lisie Mehlman
Local News Editor

Students do come out to the bar, regardless of the weather.

— Evan Langfeldt, Two Brothers' Bartender

Apparently, the only place Middlebury College students have been running out to this winter is the bar. Imagine that. Two Brothers' Tavern bartender Evan Langfeldt seemed somewhat amused as he explained, "Students do come out to the bar, regardless of the weather."

When they are not in search of a good time at the local pub, however, students venture into town less frequently as the temperature begins to fall in November. Now in the dead of winter, most businesses in town are experiencing a downturn in sales. The manager of Wild Mountain Thyme, Jen Oberkirch, shared her strategy for keeping sales up despite dropping temperatures. "Since the cold keeps people from coming out, we always have a sale after Christmas. That boosts business."

While most businesses feel a noticeable lull in sales, they have also learned to expect it, and, like those at Wild Mountain Thyme, have planned accordingly. Larry Duffany, the owner of Ben Franklin, mapped out the predictable pattern of business in Middlebury's winter months. "January and February are always the slowest months. The cold affects us, but it is the same every year. We're very dependent on the weather. If there's a snowstorm or ice storm then nobody comes out." Marlene McLaughlin, co-owner of Glass Bead Game, echoed Duffany's comments, explaining it was "pointless" to order new merchandise during the winter months.

If winter is not the pinnacle of Middlebury's business prosperity, then what is? According to McLaughlin, the holiday season is by far the best for retail. But, "from Christmas to January there is a drop off." She went on to say, "We definitely have a tourist season in Midd. From summer into foliage season – business is good." Langfeldt, however, tends to think that the summer season — August through October — is best.

Retail, however, only comprises one segment of Middlebury's economy. Manufacturing also plays a key role in Addison County's financial well-being — which of late — has not been performing well. Jamie Stewart of Addison County Economic Development Corporation maintains, "Manufacturing demands are up from where they were — at a low point. It is nowhere near where it was at its highpoint. Things are a little bit better," but are still sluggish.

Along with manufacturing, it is clear that tourism plays a large part in Vermont's economy. Winter or not, visitors need nice, cozy places to stay. In an effort to provide that environment, the Courtyard by Marriott officially opened its doors to guests on Dec. 30, 2003. The Courtyard staff is looking forward to the summer season when tourists will flood in and when they can house the many guests visiting for local weddings. Located just five miles from campus, the Courtyard will be a great place for visiting parents to stay.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Joshua Carson

It's the last week of J-Term and before you return home to that small town outside of Boston, make sure you check out what's going on in and around Middlebury.

THE ART OF MAPLE SUGARING

Yes, apparently 'Sugar' is a verb. On Ruby Brace Road., in Starksboro, the veteran sugarers of Elder Family Forest will teach you all you need to know about tapping your sugar maples and making your own syrup. On Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. until noon, you'll learn about sugaring ecology, equipment options, boiling techniques and preparations for the season. Be sure to bring $15 and your favorite maple desert.

TRACKING ANIMALS IN THE WOODS

If stalking your latest crush isn't working out too well, try stalking something that can't turn you down — like a wild animal! On Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. until noon at Wright Park in Middlebury, Barry and Warren King will lead a group through the woods of Middlebury tracking down the winter wildlife. Be sure to pack your snowshoes if necessary and call Barry or Warren at 388-4082 if you have any doubts about the weather.

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

by Andrea M. LaRocca

Courtesy

- **Restaurant**: Swift House Inn
- **Location**: 25 Stewart Lane, Middlebury
- **Hours**: Thursday to Monday, 6 - 9 p.m.
- **Features**: Gourmet fare and local foods

Simply put, the new restaurant at the Swift House Inn is gourmet — in a Vermont way. After years of closure, the Swift House restaurant reopened last May and has undergone extensive décor renovations and cuisine revisions since the inn changed hands in July. Now, with its refurbished dining room and menu, the Swift House offers a gourmet experience right in the comfort of downtown Middlebury.

The inn itself is a mecca of Middlebury history, as it was built in 1814. The newly opened dining room is redecorated to reflect the inn's original time period. The dining room is small and intimate with less than a dozen tables and an ornate but homey fireplace. The ambiance is somewhat reserved — no dining hall manners here — but the inn staff promotes a relaxed feeling in the upscale environment. Jeans and sneakers aren't just allowed but encouraged (Dads and college students rejoice!).

The menu has the same attitude. It offers gourmet and specialty dishes that feature fresh, local products like bread from the Red Hen Bakery. The menu also changes once a week to highlight in-season ingredients and to maintain an updated fare selection. The dinner begins with an "amuse," a small dish courtesy of the chef that is meant to awaken the taste buds. Then follows an appetizer course, with choices that range from sautéed baby calamari to a duck confit salad. All the appetizers utilize the ingredients in innovative ways, such as the "insalata tusto gusto with grilled asparagus" that updates the typical green salad and gives it some bite with Portobello mushrooms and asparagus. The appetizer selection ranges from $5 to 8 per dish.

But if the appetizers are good, the entrees are even better. The Swift House features local Misty Knoll poultry, fresh fish and meat and always at least one vegetarian selection. The entrée descriptions will certainly sound gourmet and you might wonder if you'll like potato gnocchi (whatever that is), but don't worry, odds are that at the Swift House, you will. The combinations — such as roasted salmon with lemon risotto and shiitake mushrooms — bring out the best in all the ingredients and give the food a distinctive flavor. No dining hall food here, either. For entrees, the price ranges from $16-27 per plate — so if you're on a budget, the entrée portions are plentiful enough that you could forgo the appetizer and still leave satisfied.

As for the desserts, however, *don't* skip out early. Swift House makes all their desserts from scratch, and you can literally taste the difference. Ben and Jerry's move over. The homemade ice cream, the chocolate cake and the seasonally flavored crème brulée are more than worth the $6 per dessert. In fact, if nothing else, stop by the inn sometime just for the dessert and maybe a drink or two — you're more than welcome to do so, according to the innkeepers.

At the Swift House, both the food and the ambiance are gourmet at its best and most relaxed. However, the prices are obviously steep for a college budget (if you eat a full meal, you will pay about $50 per person, not including drinks), so I would recommend the Swift House for special nights out, such as an anniversary or graduation celebration. But even then, be prepared that the inn is an upscale restaurant and you might not know certain etiquette. They will offer you spring water from a bottle or ice water. I'd go with the ice water — it tastes the same and doesn't cost $6 per bottle. Also, keep in mind that the Swift House might be perfect for when Mom and Dad come to visit. It has that Vermont flavor and flair that parents will love — and that you'll love having them pay for.

The Middlebury Campus

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So what's on the menu tonight?
hmmm... Looks like another cultural dinner
We have our pick of steak and kidney pie, tripe, two kinds of pudding, and - Crikey - it actually is haggis this time..!
You know, I'm not really sure that British cultural dinner was such a great idea...
At least there's pudding!
Yeah, blood or suet.
Oh.
Next week: African goat lips!

Nate Dorr

EDITORIAL

Reshaping J-term for the Future

The days of J-Term may be waning, but the faculty review of the one-month intersession is gathering speed. The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) released its much-anticipated proposals this month in preparation for a faculty vote by March.

One proposal banishes J-term from the academic calendar — an option which should not even be on the table. It reflects an unwillingness to fine-tune a valuable component of the Middlebury College curriculum. *The Middlebury Campus* maintains its position that the faculty should direct energy towards refining J-term rather than clamoring to eliminate it.

The other EAC proposal modifies J-Term to address prevailing faculty concerns. In a well-reasoned document, the EAC lays out a set of reforms that would appease J-term's detractors while preserving it as a staple of the College curriculum. The Student Government Association (SGA) was wise to throw its support behind this proposal. This is not a time for rallying behind the status quo. The faculty clearly has legitimate concerns that must be remedied by any lasting reform.

The faculty has made clear that the status quo is untenable. Concerns circulate about academic rigor, teaching load and the narrow window of time professors have to prepare for spring semester courses.

The EAC's plan to modify J-term is designed to alleviate these problems. It does so with considerable success. Some questions, however, remain unanswered.

The EAC's proposal to require students to participate in only two of four J-terms brands the one-month intersession a dispensable aspect of the curriculum. If the faculty is to succeed in strengthening J-term, institutional commitment to the experience must be stepped up rather than downplayed.

The opt-out clause also raises questions of fairness to students who don't have the AP or IB credits stored from high school — especially considering that not all high schools offer such courses. Without high school credit, students would not be at liberty to skip a J-term.

Still, the modified J-term proposal presents the best possible means of keeping J-term a staple of the Middlebury experience. The faculty should pursue this route to enshrine J-term — albeit in modified form — as a permanent fixture of the curriculum.

Make It Fair Trade

Stocking Fair Trade coffee in the Dining Halls is a logical extension of the College's committment to the environment and social progress. It's heartening that student activists have catapulted the issue into the public eye — partly through awareness-raising events and partly through old fashioned lobbying. The College should view the Fair Trade movement as a means of reconfirming its longstanding vision for sustainability.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In reference to an article in the last edition of *The Middlebury Campus* [Williams Sucks: No... Middlebury Sucks, Jan. 15], I question what a person who seems to express such disdain for Middlebury students is doing at Middlebury in the first place. The statements made in this piece are not only harsh but also untrue for the vast majority of the student body at Midd.

I think we can all agree that the "Williams Sucks" T-shirts are a little childish, but that is what is fun about them. Every college has them for one school or another. What I feel this author is missing here is that nobody really thinks Williams sucks, and it is not about some heartfelt bitterness. It's all in good clean, tacky college fun. What I find most offensive about this article is not that it berates the T-shirts. I wouldn't buy one either.

I am appalled that any Middlebury student would accuse other students of simply being "pissed because you merely made its (Williams) wait-list."

Middlebury students are "just as good if not better" than Williams students in different ways. All the NESCAC schools are essentially on the same level in anything other than trivial definitions of superiority.

Many students at Middlebury chose to go here over other NESCACs, including Williams, as well as Ivy League schools. Middlebury students are a unique, motivated and independent group who has fallen in love with this special environment. We can't win them all, but nobody should accept the thought of mediocrity as this author suggests. Midd students are nothing short of exceptional.

Susanne Roberts '06
Alexandria, Va.

To the Editor:

The reasons outlined in Abbie Beane's article in the last issue of *The Middlebury Campus* [Williams Sucks: No...Middlebury Sucks, Jan. 15], on why Williams does not "suck" are, in fact, the very reasons rivalries begin and continue. And really, that is what the issue is here: a rivalry — two institutions that try to one-up each other and have a good deal of ill will.

First, a rivalry need not be reciprocated to be valid and meaningful. Case in point: University of Pennsylvania hates Princeton who hates Yale who hates Harvard who doesn't care about anyone.

Also, in this case, as in ours, parity makes the rivalry. Whether Williams is as "good" as Middlebury is immaterial. In fact, this is a factor that always builds rivals, not one that tears them down.

Naturally, schools reach to the next highest competitor and try to beat and deride them. Further, the feeling that Williams is too busy with Amherst is wrong (similar to the assertion that Harvard does not care about Yale). They want to beat us just as much as we do them. The Middlebury-Williams competition is, in spite of what detractors might say, fitting with examples of classic and accepted rivalry between schools, though it may not be as intense.

Rivalry, even if it is just blind dislike of another school, builds pride, is generally fun and breeds excitement. Besides, (deep) beneath the surface, we can all see the similarities. Hate can only go so deep. Beane, get off your high horse and join the bashing. Oh, and Williams sucks.

James Rogers '06
Mountain Lakes, N.J.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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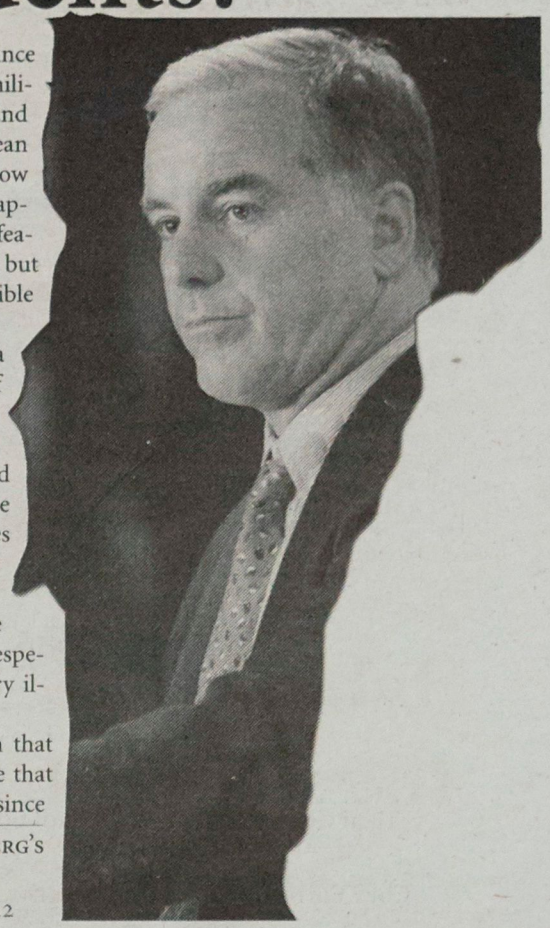
Can Maple Trees Bloom Presidents?



Before his recent landslide, Howard Dean was considered by many to be the front-runner in the Democratic race. Fortunately for his party, the Donkeys are beginning to look beyond the hype and come to terms with Dean's relatively weak candidacy. This should come as no surprise to Middlebury students, though, who more than anybody else should know that a Vermont governor should never serve in the White House.

Vermonters pride themselves on the fact that their state has changed very little over the last few decades. They are willing to endure frustratingly long car rides in order to prevent the construction of real highways. They are willing to maintain and operate ski mountains that are not profitable because Vermont and the sport of skiing grew up together. They even continue to mold their largest town, Burlington, around a hippie culture that will never die in Vermont because Vermonters don't want it to die. There is certainly irony in the fact that the nation's most liberal state is the one that has changed the least since Howard Dean grew up and became governor, but then again, this is Vermont.

This is Vermont, and this is the state in which Howard Dean has spent his entire political career. His out-of-state supporters tout his success as governor, but few of them realize how objectively easy a job Vermont governor is in comparison to much more challenging leadership roles. Vermont is the ultimate middle-class state: it has a poverty rate well below the national average, which, when coupled with its low median household income and its high homeownership rate, suggests that there are few rich people and few poor people. Not only are Vermonters similar in terms of income, but they are ethnically homogenous. Ninety-seven percent of Vermont is white, meaning that for all intents and purposes, diversity does not exist. Many of our nation's challenges stem from income discrepancies and ethnic diversity, concepts that Howard Dean knows little about, since his state is not a melting pot, but rather a bowl of vanilla ice cream.

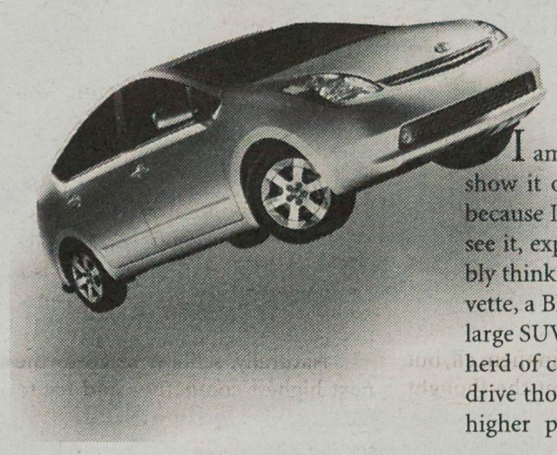
Vermont is not only oblivious to many of the challenges that the rest of the nation faces, it is also fundamentally different in terms of its population makeup. For starters, there are no urban dwellers in the state of Vermont because there are no cities. Should Mr. Dean be elected president, he will be counted on to protect the security of New York City, Los Angeles and the dozens of other cities which have populations that exceed all of Vermont's. Since it is reasonable to assume that the military and the Department of Homeland Security will lose funding under a Dean administration, one must wonder how he plans to protect our nation's skyscrapers. A change in foreign policy could feasibly help the situation in the long run, but America cannot afford to be susceptible for even one day.

Perhaps it is not surprising that a state without cities also has a dearth of young people. On his Web site, Howard Dean brags that he "guaranteed health coverage to virtually every child in Vermont age 18 and under," but he does not mention that only five states have fewer minors than his. What worked for Vermont's hundred thousand children may not work for the other 70 million young Americans, especially the ones who are in the country illegally.

Illegal immigration is a problem that has plagued many states, but it is one that Vermont has successfully avoided, since

See the rest of Bryan Goldberg's article Dean Lacks Presidential Punch, page 12

Proud, Positive, Potent, Post-Oil, Prius: Convert to Hybrid



I am proud of my car. I like to show it off. I always offer to drive because I want to make sure people see it, experience it. You are probably thinking that I have a shiny corvette, a BMW Z3 or an impressively large SUV with room to fit an entire herd of cattle and enough power to drive those cattle up a mountain to higher pastures. Actually, my car has a 76 horsepower engine. My car also has a 67 horsepower electric motor and a 28 horsepower battery. My car is a Toyota Prius — one of first and still one of the only gas/electric hybrid vehicles sold in the United States.

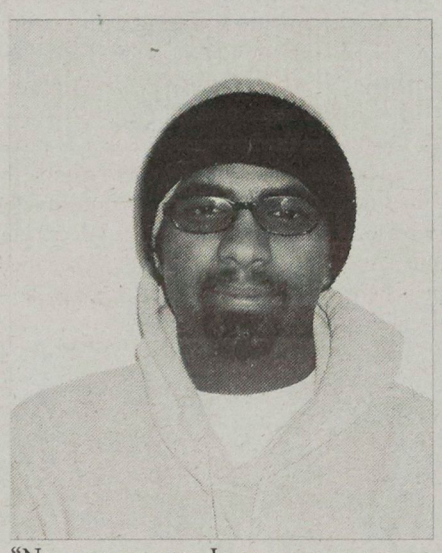
I own a Prius because I want to do my part in helping to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. I gladly show my Prius to all who are interested because I want to encourage others to do their part too. Even if they are not in the market for a new car, it makes a difference because they are able to inform others about hybrid vehicles. By experiencing a hybrid car, they are also forced to think about the global issue surrounding cars, climate change due to increased CO_2 emissions. Almost everyone I take for a ride in my car comes to see the hybrid cars in a positive light. They learn hybrids are safe, reliable vehicles. Sure, they aren't as powerful as an SUV, and they can't go above 100 miles per hour, but the Prius does everything the average person needs a car to do. So far I have two verified converts who have bought Prius's of their own, an old teacher of mine and my father.

Contrary to what many of you out there are thinking, and I know what you are thinking as I have heard these questions many times

See the rest of Caitlin Hick's article Hybrid Cars: Fusing Cars with the Natural World, page 12

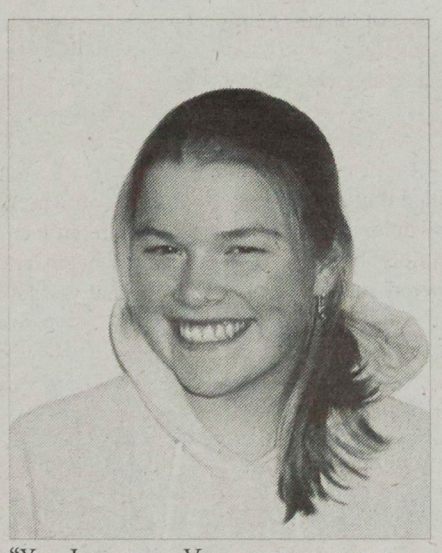
The Middlebury Campus Online Poll:

Does the cold weather ever make you regret coming to Middlebury?



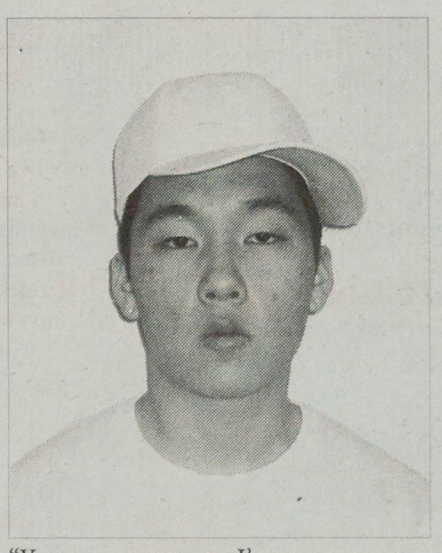
"No, not really. I love the place even though the weather is terrible."

Yared Gurmu '04
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



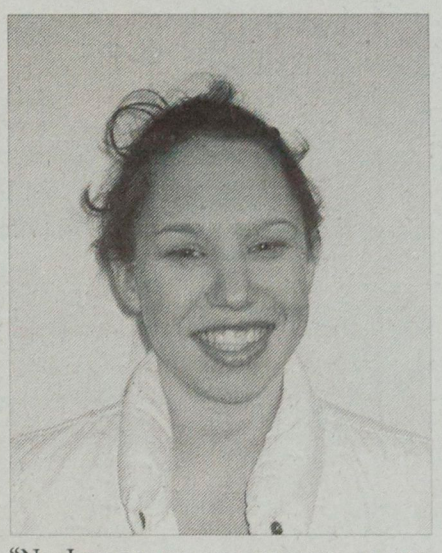
"Yes, I came to Vermont to spend time outside, but during the winter I'm always cooped up indoors."

Laura Healy '07
Albion, R.I.



"Yes, very much so. I'm not used to this kind of weather, but it is bearable. The heating works, sometimes."

Dillian Lee '07
Fullerton, Calif.

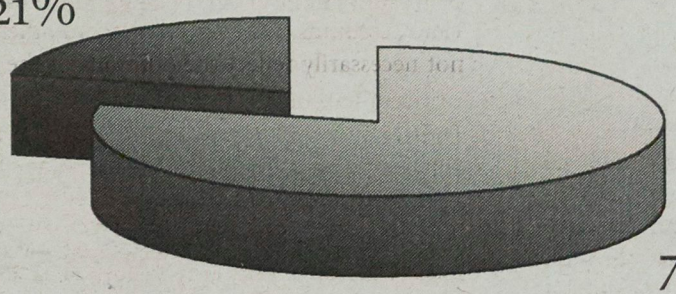


"No, I enjoy the opportunity to ski whenever I want."

Brittany Potz '06
South Salem, N.Y.

Next Issue's Question:
Should Middlebury College Spend More to Buy Fair Trade Coffee?
vote online at www.middleburycampus.com

Yes, what good is a college education if it's too cold to think?



No, a good cold weeds out the wimps.

Note: Results based on 123 votes cast between Jan. 16 and Jan. 27 at www.middleburycampus.com

Dean Lacks Presidential Punch

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

most Canadians have no desire to head south for the border.

Finally, in relation to the rest of America, Vermont has never known crime. While this is likely a result of the aforementioned low poverty rate, lack of diversity and absence of cities, Howard Dean still brags that he "has cracked down on violent crime in Vermont." What crime?

When Mr. Dean entered office, his state had the second lowest crime rate in the nation, roughly a tenth of what he can expect to find in Washington, D.C. He is also not so quick to brag that the rest of the nation saw three times the decrease in crime that Vermont did during his tenure.

The state of Vermont experienced approximately 42 fewer acts of violence *per annum* as a result of Howard Dean, a feat that he proudly achieved by "working with lawmakers, prosecutors, judges and law enforcement." In Vermont, it is easy to know every single judge or district attorney by his or her first name, but can Mr. Dean build similar relationships in California or New York?

Howard Dean's candidacy is being embraced by millions of Americans who believe his campaign to be more refreshing than a scoop of Phish Food. He is a brand new face on the American political scene, and he is undoubtedly a proven winner.

The question, though, is not whether he has won, but whether or not he has played in the big leagues. In the big leagues, cities exist, and the inhabitants are not all English-speaking white people. If Dean moves from Montpelier to Washington, D.C., he will have to learn how to combat crime, a plague that has never existed in Vermont, and poverty, which is relatively uncommon in The Green Mountain State. In the big leagues, the opposition throws harder and the ball moves faster, and the same homerun swing that worked for Howard Dean in Vermont might leave him pining for triple-A.

BRYAN GOLDBERG '05
AN ECONOMICS MAJOR FROM LOS ALTOS, CALIF.

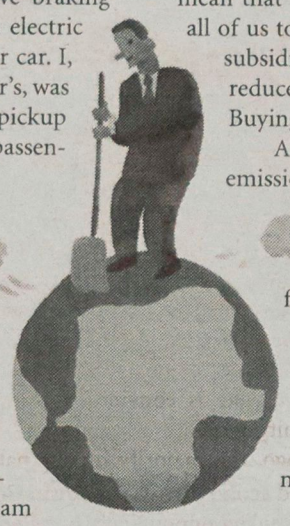
Hybrid Cars: Fusing Cars with the Rest of the Natural World

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

before, the Prius is a practical vehicle. No, it does not have to be plugged in. Its regenerative braking system charges the battery through an electric motor. Yes, it is just as safe as any other car. I, through no fault of my own or of my car's, was in an accident. Despite hitting a large pickup truck, my car was able to protect two passengers and me from any harm.

Yes, it has enough acceleration to pull onto highways safely. As I have said before, it cannot go above a hundred, but it does what any safe driver needs a car to do.

Yes, it can drive on dirt roads. I am an avid hiker and have yet to find a trailhead that my car can't get too. Yes, it is able to drive in wintery conditions, as much as any other car can. I am also an avid skier and drive to the slopes in my car. Yes, it has enough space. I have driven it on roads trips and moved to my summer internships with it.



Our federal government is not doing its part to help reduce global fossil fuel emissions, but that does not mean that we have to follow that lead. It is now up to all of us to take it upon ourselves without government subsidies and without significant tax deductions, to reduce our own personal carbon dioxide emissions. Buying a hybrid car is a great way to start.

A hybrid car has half of the greenhouse gas emissions as a regular car — greenhouse gas emissions that are causing hotter summers, less snowy winters and more erratic weather events such as droughts and flooding. Obviously, there are people who cannot afford new cars, but for all of you who can, I encourage you seriously consider a hybrid vehicle next time you are in the market for a new car. Trust me from my experience, it will impress your friends and neighbors more than any SUV could.

CAITLIN HICKS '04
AN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR FROM LONGMEADOW, MASS.

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Fair Trade in Focus

Student campaign aims to put sustainable coffee in dining halls

By David Barker
Features Editor

Middlebury College's coffee machines glimmer in the dining halls for students eager to get an extra jolt for late-night studying. Now, if a student initiative succeeds in bringing Fair Trade Coffee into the dining halls, each bow of the coffee tap could be bolstering community agriculture in Latin America in addition to student alertness.

Improving the quality of life for peasant farmers is exactly the positive change that the "Fair Beans" Campaign wanted to make when they came up with the idea last November. "It really fits with Middlebury's philosophy of making socially and environmentally responsible decisions," said Alyssa Jumars '06, one of the organizers of the campaign.

An environmental and social consciousness has brought in local lumber for the library and local food has long been a staple of dining halls at Middlebury. From apples to turkeys, dining halls are always stocked with goods from the farming networks in the state. But with over 200 other colleges, including Williams and the Ivies already brewing Fair Trade, why has Middlebury lagged behind?

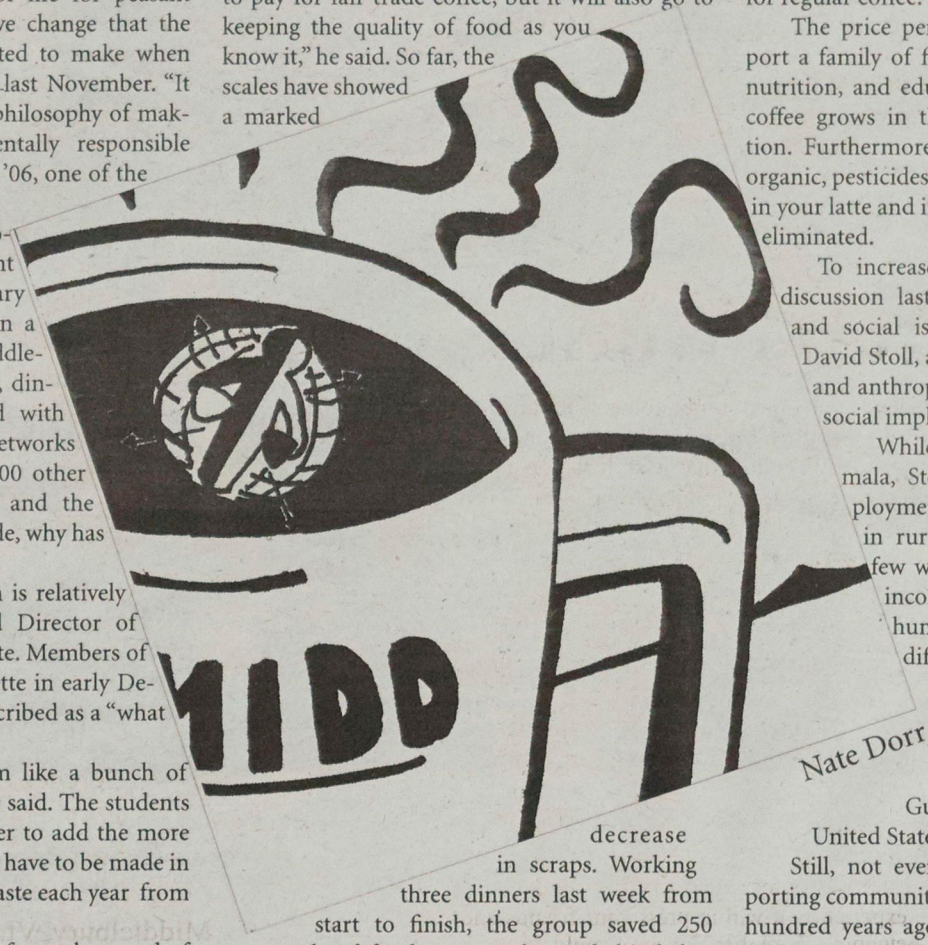
"The budget I work with is relatively fixed," said newly appointed Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette. Members of the campaign approached Biette in early December with what Jumars described as a "what can we do for you attitude."

"We didn't want to seem like a bunch of whining college students," she said. The students and Biette agreed that in order to add the more expensive coffee, a dent would have to be made in the 100,000 pounds of food waste each year from the dining halls.

Since the college loses $2 for each pound of food waste, Biette set a goal of reducing 10,000 pounds of scraps to cover the cost for Fair Trade Coffee. Following the meeting with Biette, Jumars recruited student volunteers to help paw through student food waste. The response has been enthusiastic. "I've been impressed with how many people have helped out," said Jameson Henn '07, the Volunteer Coordinator for the campaign. Thirty concerned minds met in early January in Pearsons Lounge, and meetings have continued on Wednesdays at 10 p.m. Henn said he joined the Fair Trade group after living with a family in Costa Rica that eked out a living growing coffee. "The coffee wouldn't pay for the price of land," he said.

Winter Term has witnessed two to three student volunteers in Ross and Proctor at dinner, grabbing trays and shoveling food scraps into a trash can set on a scale. Jumars insists that the scales are doing the bulk of the judging. "We don't want to guilt-trip people," she said. Catchy signs with slogans like "Underestimate your hunger" have been displayed in the dining halls to remind students to come back for seconds instead of taking the entire pan of chicken parmesan the first time through.

Biette stands behind the student effort. "Not only will the food waste initiative open up funds to pay for fair trade coffee, but it will also go to keeping the quality of food as you know it," he said. So far, the scales have showed a marked



decrease in scraps. Working three dinners last week from start to finish, the group saved 250 pounds of food compared to a behind-the-scenes baseline count they did at the start of Winter Term. Jumars said waste has been reduced by an average of 40 percent in Ross and 15 percent in Proctor during their weighing sessions. Calculating food waste takes into account the number of people at a given meal to generate a pounds wasted per person estimate.

Reduced food waste has not been the only sign of the group's progress. During Winter Term, a pot of Fair Trade Certified coffee from New England Coffee Company, called Central Highlands Blend, has been available in the dining halls. Without student commitment to the cause, Biette said the pot wouldn't have shown up as quickly.

Jumars sees the pot as raising student awareness, but they ultimately want their coffee to come from a local vendor that sells only Fair Trade Coffee. Bristol-based Vermont Coffee Company is a candidate.

The "Fair Trade Certified" label on the Highlands Blend pot might be small and barely perceptible to the rushing student, but its implications are far-reaching. According to Jumars, Fair Trade Coffee eliminates the middlemen common to large coffee plantations. As a result, more money goes to community farmers who net $1.26 per pound as opposed to 50 cents a pound for regular coffee.

The price per pound is calculated to support a family of five with adequate health care, nutrition, and education. Eighty percent of the coffee grows in the shade, reducing deforestation. Furthermore, because most Fair Trade is organic, pesticides and chemicals that can end up in your latte and in the growing environment are eliminated.

To increase student awareness, a panel discussion last week tackled the economic and social issues surrounding the coffee. David Stoll, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, led a discussion on the social implications of the coffee.

While doing field work in Guatemala, Stoll observed the lack of employment opportunities and income in rural communities. "One of the few ways for people to add to their income is coffee," he said. "A couple hundred extra dollars can make a difference." Stoll also mentioned the scarcity of employment opportunities in Central and South America as a contributing factor to Guatemalan immigration to the United States.

Still, not everyone is convinced that supporting community agriculture will pay off. "Two hundred years ago, the majority of our nation was farmers," said economics major Bryan Goldberg '05, an outspoken opponent of the student campaign.

"At some point these people switched their jobs," he added, citing the 2002 CIA World Factbook statistic that states that only two percent of the U.S. workforce is in agriculture. "Globalization will have to take its course," Goldberg said.

The student group hopes that the recent slew of lectures and meetings surrounding Fair Trade continues to generate campus-wide debate. Mike Ives '06.5, an organizer and avid food-weigher for the campaign wants the campaign to carve out a permanent niche. "It's been going well, but we have to find ways to make it more than just fun propaganda," he said. Even if the coffee campaign cools, administration has taken note. "Where the student body produces a groundswell of interest, it does makes a logical argument to entertain Fair Trade Coffee," Biette said.

Behind the Brew: Spilling the beans on Fair Trade Coffee

- The concept of Fair Trade certification originated in 1988 in the Netherlands because of the exploitation of coffee farmers in the Dutch Colonies.
- The goal of Middlebury's "Fair Beans" campaign is to make Fair Trade Coffee the only cofee served in all dining halls and to have that coffee be supplied by a local roaster.
- Fair Trade Coffee is available at over 200 colleges nationwide, including Williams, Harvard and Georgetown.

By the Numbers

50¢
Price Per Pound given to farmers of Regular Coffee

$1.26
Price Per Pound given to farmers of Fair Trade Coffee

10,000
Pounds of coffee consumed annually by Middlebury students

$20,000
Extra cost if Fair Trade Coffee is put in the dining halls

Student Takes Second in National Geographic Essay Contest

In Isaac's Words

Excerpt From:
A Story About Us:
Our Connection to the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic

"My grandmother often said that Vermont's snow fools us into thinking that all are blanketed in happiness, and that everything is right with the world. Conscious of this scrim, during the summer following my junior year, I traveled to the shantytowns surrounding Port Elizabeth, South Africa, to study the HIV/AIDS epidemic...I expected to pay witness to the inequality and terror surrounding the disease, but amidst the chaos and brutality, I found hope and beauty."

Read the entire essay in March at http://www.nationalgeographic.com/traveler/0403/oncampus

By Andrea LaRocca
Features Editor

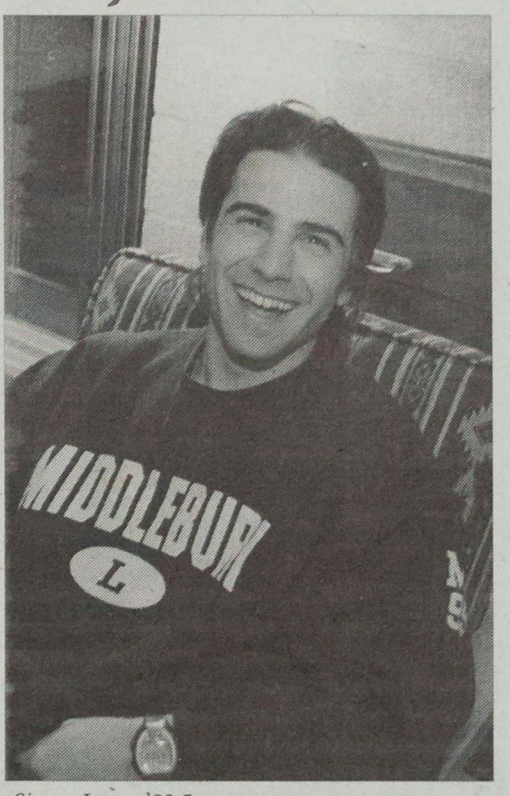
Simon Isaacs '03.5 experienced a lot during his travels in South Africa – so much, in fact, that he recently won second prize in the National Geographic Traveler on Campus "Experience of a Lifetime" college essay contest. Isaacs' winning essay is entitled "A Story About Us: Our Connection to the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic." It will be published on the magazine's website in March, and he will receive an award of $500.

The essay contest was open to college students throughout the country, with the stipulation that applicants write about a travel experience that inspired, influenced and/or altered their mindset about an issue. Isaacs entered the contest on a whim and decided to rework a previous essay about his travels in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, where he was conducting HIV/AIDS research. His essay focuses on an encounter he had with the South African school children, many of whom were HIV/AIDS orphans, that changed his thoughts about the epidemic by making him see the children "not as [HIV/AIDS] victims but as happy children." Isaacs says that his essay stresses that "it is pivotal that we do not forget that places like sub-Saharan Africa are better defined by their humanity than by their tragedy."

National Geographic Traveler more than agreed with the significance of Isaacs' experience. As Keith Bellows, editor-in-chief of the magazine wrote to Isaacs, "The selection of your essay from among those we considered confirms your ability to capture the spirit of our theme, 'Experience of a Lifetime.'"

For Isaacs, however, his South African travels are not only an experience of a lifetime but rather are the beginning of his lifetime career. Isaacs is currently completing his thesis on HIV/AIDS as a threat to national security, and he has already been invited to Texas A&M to present his argument. He is considering several post-graduation options, including studying international development at Cambridge University or taking a position as a health advisor in Cambodia.

Either way, Isaacs will continue his work with HIV/AIDS and will one day return to South Africa. In his own words, "I do hope to go back to South Africa sometime soon. International development and HIV/AIDS will always be a centerpiece of my career, and sub-Saharan Africa offers both tremendous challenge and great opportunity for change in both of these respects."



Simon Isaacs '03.5

Celebrating MLK:
Looking Back and Moving Forward

By Venessa Wong
Staff Writer

Last week, Middlebury College hosted a series of free public events, including a concert, a prayer breakfast and a faculty panel discussion, in celebration of civil rights hero Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A strikingly proactive tone marked this year's events, and three words resonated through the week – "We Shall Overcome."

On Friday, Jan. 16, a crowd of brave students, faculty and town residents confronted the evening's biting cold to attend "Let Freedom Sing! A Celebration of the American Negro Spiritual and the Words of Martin Luther King, Jr." at Mead Chapel. This year's program was the first to include both song and prose, a concept invoked by Middlebury physician Dr. Mike Kiernan.

Francois Clemmons, Alexander Twilight Artist-In-Residence, opened the concert with a powerful solo performance of "Hush, Hush," drawing the audience into silent awe of his commanding stage presence. Next, the 39-person Martin Luther King, Jr., Choir joined him in a rendition of "I Woke Up This Mornin' With My Mind Set On Freedom."

Between songs, actor/musician Esau Pritchett performed dramatic readings of four of Dr. King's famous speeches – "Movement From Montgomery," "Love Your Enemy," "I Have A Dream" and "I've Been To The Mountaintop." Despite having only 10 days of diligent rehearsal, Pritchett masterfully delivered King's words and was answered by the audience's thunderous applause.

This performance had special meaning for Pritchett, who has also appeared on "Law and Order," and the Stella Adler Studios production of *Othello*. "[King's words] are more relevant to my own personal reality [than Shakespeare's]. He's always been a hero of mine… The goal was not to impersonate [Dr. King] but to celebrate his words."

"It's important for students to hear Dr. King's message," said Clemmons in support of adding the dramatic readings to this year's concert program. "When King was alive, none of these kids were born. His words can seem hollow or unreal. [Reciting them] brings history to life."

After resting through the weekend, the Choir reassembled in the Ross Commons Dining Hall early on Monday, Jan. 19 to sing again in the Sixth Annual Prayer Breakfast, which was attended this year by Governor of Vermont James Douglas '72. Families, students, faculty and staff gathered for a hot meal.

In his welcome speech, Douglas recalled his freshman year at Middlebury College (1968), which began shortly after King's death in April. "Middlebury used [King's] death as an opportunity to commit ourselves to a colorblind society… We must carry out Dr. King's legacy of equality, justice and freedom."

Douglas said that Vermont is committed to King's goals and believes that the State has a good opportunity to succeed because of its small size and intimacy. "Still, we've got a ways to go. People in Vermont are poor. We must continue working hard as a society to help them."

At the climax of the program, Associate Professor of American Literature & Civilization William Nash gave an impassioned address entitled, "Remaining Awake?: Our Responsibility to Answer King's Call," in which he called for action against poverty and hunger. "Martin Luther King was a doer," Nash said at the beginning of his speech. "We must also be doers…We as a nation are asleep in the wake of rising poverty."

Nash revealed statistics about poverty in the state of Vermont in hopes of awakening his listeners' consciousness.

"What are we willing to do about this?" he asked at the end of his address. "Action is the answer. We must do this to continue Martin Luther King's work and continue his vision…We must start other-centered activities."

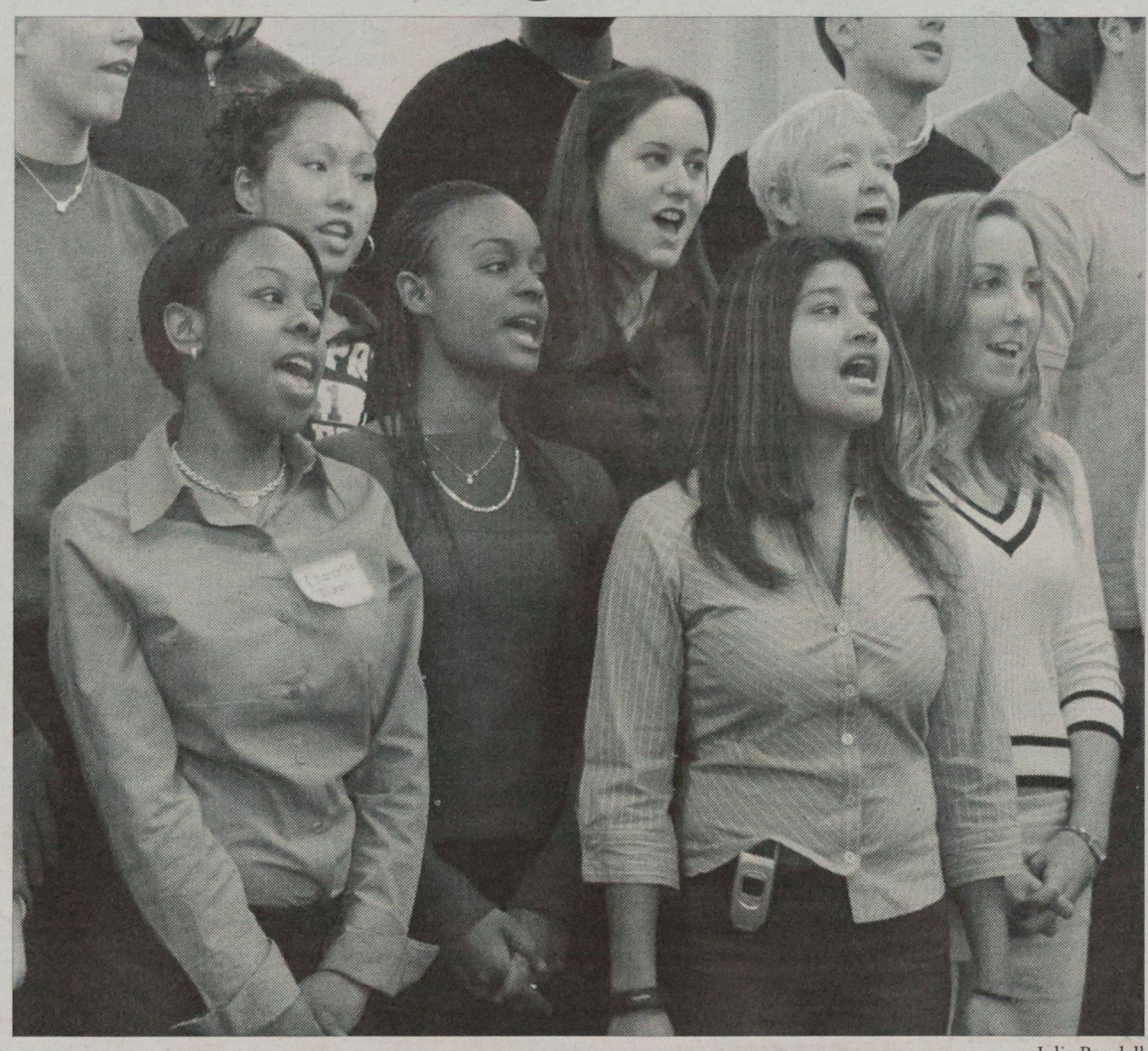
Nash says he chose to make his address one about action and not of memory because "King was a doer, and the best way to remember a doer is through action. He didn't call us to have civil rights passed and then stop. He called us to love, to make his world better, to eradicate hunger, suffering and poverty."

The breakfast also included student readings by Athenia Fischer '04, Charzetta Nixon '06, Eric Blacher '05 and Jan'l Hastings-Robinson '04, a poetry recital of an original piece called "A Dream Deferred" by Crystal Belle '04, president of African American Alliance, and a benediction by Rabbi Ira Schiffer.

On Thursday, Jan. 22, a panel discussion titled, "W. E. B. Du Bois: In Celebration of the 100-Year Anniversary of 'The Souls of Black Folk'," was held in the Robert A. Jones '59 House conference room and marked the last of this series of events. Nash joined Associate Professor of Economics Robert Prasch and Professor of History Jim Ralph in a three-man panel, moderated by Associate Professor of History William Hart.

Each of the three panelists analyzed "The Souls of Black Folk," a tenant in African-American literature, from the perspective of their particular field of study. Prasch examined the text from an economic standpoint, Ralph from a historical one and Nash from a literary one, highlighting diverse elements of Du Bois' thoughts.

In addition to honoring the memory of this social icon, the activities this year subtly urged participants to go out themselves to continue King's unrealized dream. As Belle said evocatively in the last line of her poem, "Rearrange, because the dream is still an illusion."



Julia Randall

Charzetta Nixon '06, Toni Spence '04, Aracelis Lucero '04 and Megan McElroy '04 (from left to right) sing to celebrate.

Julia Randall

In his signature deep baritone, Esau Pritchett recites an MLK speech.

Diversity through the years

- **1823** – Alexander Twilight, acknowledged to be the first African-American to receive a degree from an American college, graduates
- **1840s** – Middlebury refuses to admit a group of black students from Philadelphia
- **1849** – Martin Henry Freeman, the only black student at Middlebury between 1840 and 1880, graduates at the top of his class
- **1967** – Black Students for Mutual Understanding (BSMU), later renamed Black Student Union, founded
- **1989** – 1st Alumni of Color Weekend
- **1991** – African American & Latino Bi Cultural Center was opened (currently PALANA Pan African Latino Asian Native American Center)
- **1993** – Skin Deep Magazine founded
- **1998** – Posse Program starts
- **1998** – Riddim World Dance Club ofounded
- **2000** – Office for Institutional Diversity (OID) established

Tastes Like Tandoori Chicken

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Cold winter winds may chill most Middlebury denizens, but a few lucky students have found a small measure of relief in the spicy heat of the Indian Cuisine Winter Term Workshop. Every Wednesday night during Winter Term a small crew of ambitious chefs-in-training crowd around a makeshift tandoor oven in the Coffrin kitchen, eager to learn the piquant secrets of India. The workshop, led by juniors Saba Rizvi and Farhad Peerani, offers a succulent blend of cooking and culture — along with the chance to eat some of the finest home cooking this side of Calcutta.

Rizvi and Peerani started the workshop last year, along with Sumeet Srivastava '05, who is currently studying in China. "We initially didn't know much about cooking, and we wanted to learn," said Peerani. "So we decided to teach it — that's the best way to learn." The two of them joined forces with Rizvi, a Vermont native whose family originally hailed from Pakistan. "My mom taught me how to cook — pretty much like a tradition," she said. "I've cooked for my friends. They kind of like grab me sometimes and say, 'You need to cook.'"

Coming together to bring their family culinary traditions to the Middlebury masses, the crew set about researching recipes and tracking down hard-to-find ingredients. "It's difficult to cook because it takes a lot of time. You can't just flip a burger, you need like two hours," said Rizvi. "There are a lot of spices to use and you need to know how to use them. It's what gives the food its flavor."

Yet Rizvi and Peerani have found a number of eager pupils hungry to receive their gastronomic wisdom. "I really like Indian food. I wanted to learn how to do it," said Roula Zoghbi '07, echoing the general consensus among the trainees.

"It seems like you really need to learn it from someone who grew up with it," said Maia Hollinger '06.5. "You could probably buy an Indian cookbook but it would be a lot harder."

Though the group may be eager to learn authentic Indian recipes, their teachers had to make some allowances for the inexperienced palates of their class when it became apparent that their was a vast difference in their tolerance for the spicy Indian cuisine. "We've stepped it down," said Peerani. "We've been eating this food all our life. They aren't used to it. They wouldn't enjoy it."

"Americans can't take spicy food," laughed Rizvi.

Still, everyone is eager to sustain scalded tongues in order to partake in the sumptuous feasts that cap off every class. Sitting around a big table, the group passes around generous servings of *aloo paratha, matter pullao*, onion pakora, and all manner of steaming, pungent Indian food.

With luck, they will be able to take their new appetites far beyond J-term. "If I'm able to cook one dish, I'll be happy," said Julie Stevens '04.

Still, Rizvi and Peerani have open-ended goals for the class. "If nothing else, I hope they take an appreciation for another culture," said Peerani. "We don't expect everyone to go back and cook everything we taught them, but it's just an exposure to another culture."

The two are looking forward to teaching the workshop again next winter. "It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun as well," said Rizvi.

Iron Chef

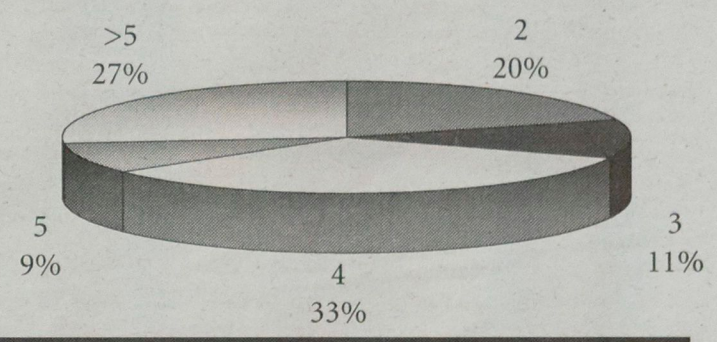
Vlad Lodoaba

With spectators looking on, *student cooks from Ross and Cook Commons went head to head Tuesday night in an intense culinary competition.*

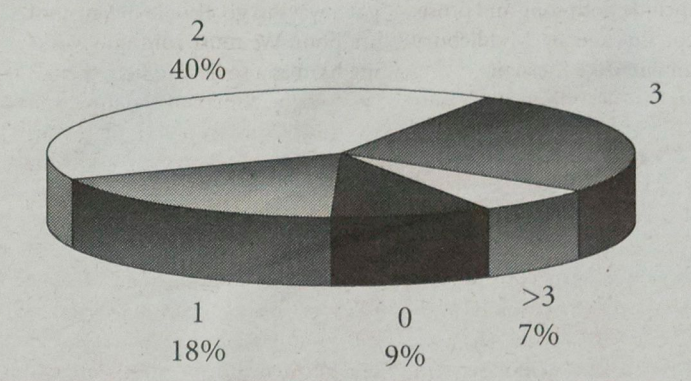
J-Term Progress Report:

What are Students Up to this J-Term?

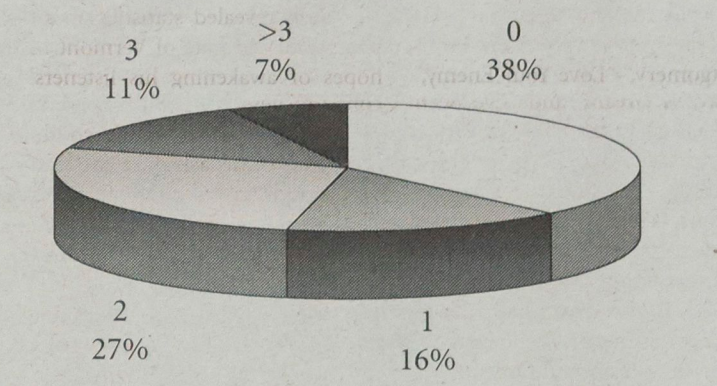
How many hours a day do you devote to academics?



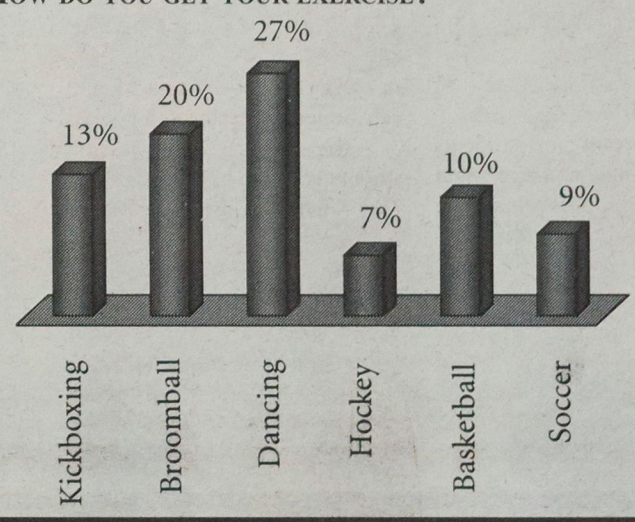
How many nights a week do you party?



How many days a week do you ski?



How do you get your exercise?



Reviewing the Facts

Winter Term is as rigorous as you choose to make it. There are large variations in the amount of time dedicated to academic work.

At the same time Winter Term is a period of experimentation in academics and in extracurricular activities. Students can branch out from their majors and discover new fields of interest. For example, one Physics major notes success in an arts course.

Beyond the classroom, students are finding time to engage in intramural sports, workshops and P.E. classes. Surprisingly, dancing trumps broomball as the most popular sport.

One student comments that Winter Term is a great time to profit from the abundant outdoor activities available through living in Vermont.

In addition, students who are accustomed to hectic regular semester schedules are enjoying more quality time spent with friends.

As Winter Term is being questioned on higher levels, the majority of students are prepared to fight for its survival.

—Abigail Mitchell & Astri von Arbin Ahlander

J-Term in Rewind:

As the faculty debates the future of Winter Term, students voice opinions on their beloved month

"J-term is a chance to profit from living in Vermont."

"J-term is great because you have complete focus on a language which equates to faster proficiency."

"It really depends on what class you're taking, but in its essence, J-term is the epitome of a liberal arts education."

"Without J-term I can't imagine how I'd take English Comps or find time for a PE credit."

"If there is no J-term, we would not be able to have the Teacher Ed program."

"J-term gives me an opportunity to dedicate myself to one class – and in doing so – to learn more than I may have in an entire semester."

Dr. Dean Devotees

Seniors Jordan Sax and Lauren Throop Report from Iowa

By Jordan Sax and Lauren Throop
Special Contributers

Thanks in part to the non-traditional academic experiences encouraged during J-term, we drove the 1,400 miles to Iowa last week to take part in last-minute campaigning before the first-in-the-nation caucus. We joined 4,000 other volunteers — hailing from Washington state to Washington D.C. and everywhere in between—in the so-called "Perfect Storm" of volunteers for presidential candidate Howard Dean.

Drawn in by Dean's record as five-term governor of Vermont, as well as his willingness to express his beliefs regardless of their popularity, we joined the Dean campaign this fall. From meetings at the local high school to biweekly canvassing trips to New Hampshire, our participation became a self-reinforcing cycle. The more letters we wrote and doors we knocked on, the more empowered we felt. The more empowered we became, the more willing we were to dedicate time and money to the campaign. This cycle has created a campaign based in the grassroots hope and optimism of its 600,000 supporters.

Unlike its predecessors and competitors, the Dean campaign continually incorporates suggestions from supporters. Nicknamed "People-Powered Howard" (an on-line suggestion), it is the first presidential campaign in modern history to raise most of its money through donations of less than $200. The Dean campaign has raised nearly $40 million through donations from normal Americans, averaging just $75 apiece.

In contrast, John Kerry and John Edwards, like President Bush, have raised most of their money in $2,000 chunks (55%, 65%, and 73% of total donations, respectively, according to www.opensecrets.org) from special interests and the wealthy. Thus, unlike conventional politicians, Dean is indebted solely to the American public.

Arriving in Cedar Rapids, we became part of the largest volunteer get-out-the-vote operation in political history. Surrounded by caffeine-fueled union workers, retired seniors, middle-aged professionals and other college students, we saw the real possibility of putting the people back in charge of our country.

In the process, we found a connection with 4,000 strangers who had, like us, moved beyond grumbling about the government to actively taking part in changing it. We were part of a community centered on a sense of hope and optimism about the potential for replacing not just the President, but also the special-interest-driven status quo in Washington. Although the caucus results were less than we'd hoped for, we knew what we had seen in Iowa was part of a greater movement. Despite the disappointment, our return to campus was bolstered by the knowledge that a message of empowerment for all Americans is more powerful than the results of a single caucus.

However, our optimism was quickly dashed as the news media distorted events we had seen first-hand. After weeks of labeling Dean the "angry" candidate based on his outspoken opposition to the Bush administration — a message since adopted by all the other candidates — the media was in dire need of evidence to validate their claim.

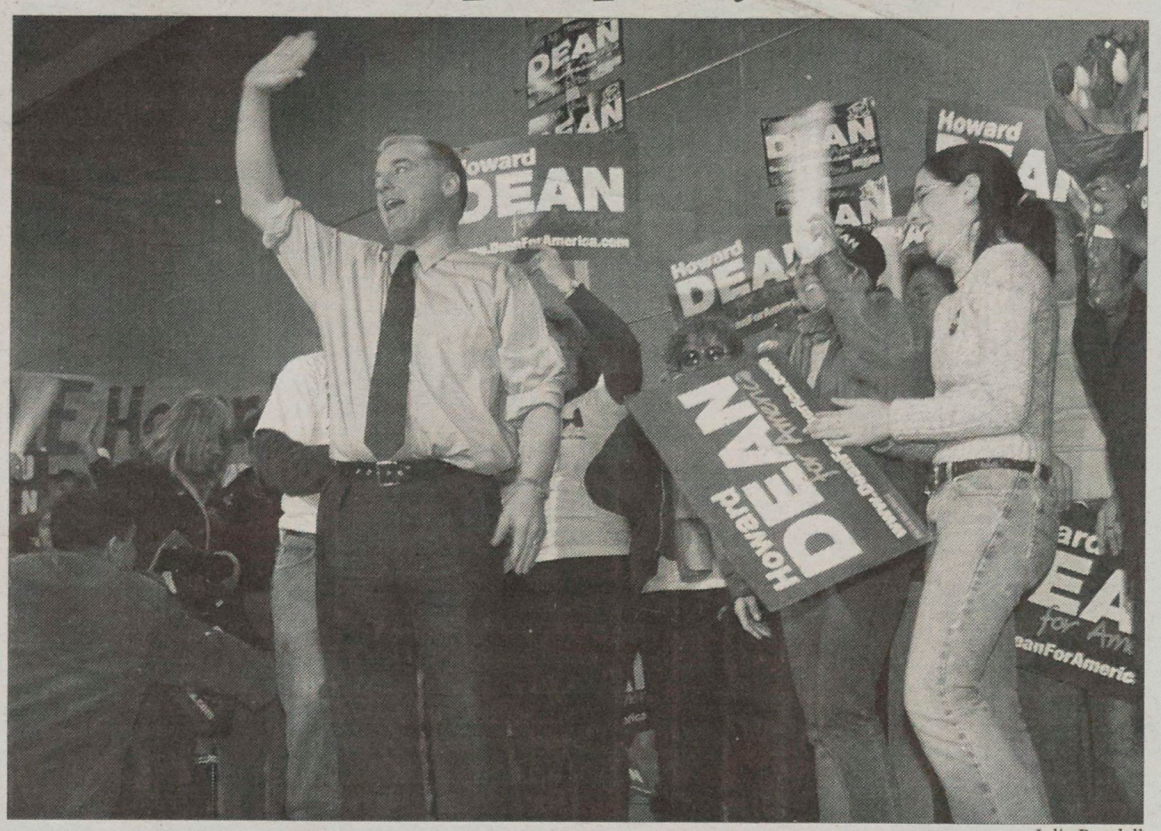
On caucus night, they found their "proof": a 10-second clip of Dean, shirt sleeves rolled up, whooping and hollering at a post-caucus rally. Caught in the clutches of 24-hour cable news, the clip replayed endlessly while commentators sniggered and called Dean "crazed," suggested he was suffering from an "emotional meltdown," and presented his "angry and defiant" speech as evidence that he was "unfit to be president".

Such blatant editorializing violates a reporter's duty to report unbiased facts, clearly breaching the journalistic code of ethics. Even more disturbing, this spin is simply not true. Reporters present at the rally — unlike news commentators and print journalists who have since immortalized Dean's yell — included one important fact that has subsequently been ignored: although Dean was shouting, "*his voice was barely audible over the din of applause.*"

The clip, incessantly replayed and reported on, shows Dean practically alone and includes only audio from his microphone, eliminating the roar of 3,500 enthusiastic supporters. In deleting the crowd's uproar, we are left with an image of Dean alone and shouting at no one.

All this focus on an out-of-context video clip ignores not only the issues pertinent to this election, but also the groundswell of optimism and empowerment that we encountered in Iowa — the foundation of the Dean campaign. The media's ability to obscure such a powerful and positive message, as well as the work of thousands of dedicated volunteers like ourselves, is frightening in its scale and its implications for our democracy.

As primary season begins, we are fighting against the tide of sales-driven media to remember the take-home message from our experience in Iowa. A message that this democracy belongs to all of us, that average people can come together to change a system that often seems so overwhelmingly unchangeable.

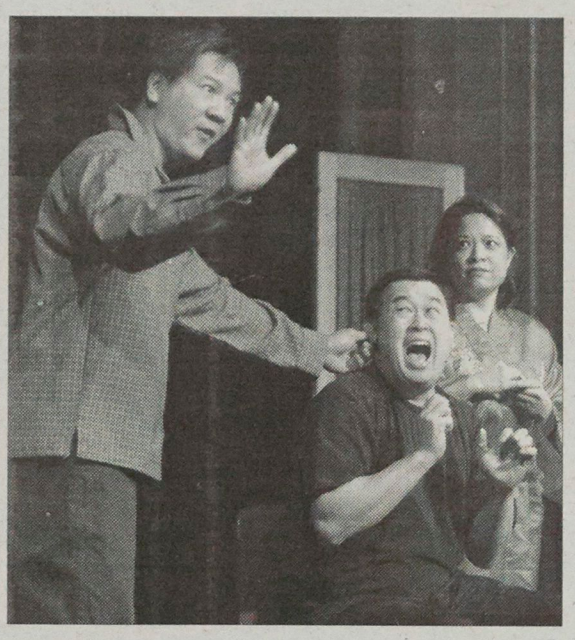


Julia Randall

Presidential Candidate Howard Dean with swarm of supporters and volunteers in New Hampshire.

Arriving in Cedar Rapids, we became part of the largest volunteer get-out-the vote operation in political history.

MASO Night Offers Laughs and Dancing in Annual Show

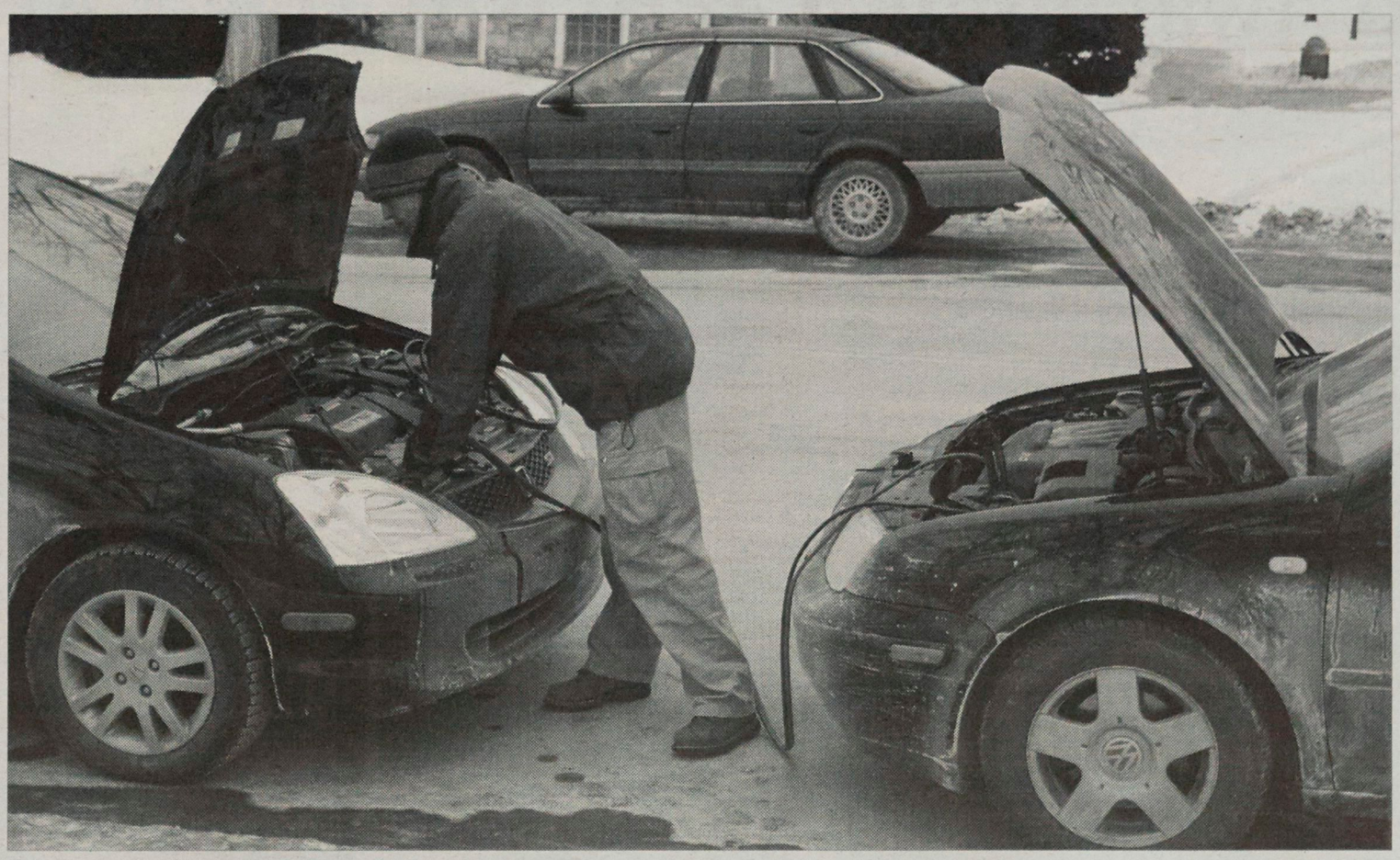


Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

Last Saturday, 220 students, staff and faculty members attended the Middlebury Asian Student Organization's (MASO) Late Night Show. The event included two dance pieces, a martial arts demonstration and a Stir-Friday Night! comedy group performance. During the Stir-Friday Night! show, the full house was filled with laughter. George Chan '05, President of MASO, said, "The audience was on the edge of its seats, gasping for air." The audience was engrossed in the performance, with the attendees yelling out various scenarios for the troupe to act out. Seven members of G.T.V.T. Breakers Club performed a piece, choreographed by Alfred Yi, that combined hip-hop, rave and breakdancing elements with comical bouts. The second dance number brought together a traditional Japanese dance, kung-fu, tai chi and hip-hop. The last student piece, a martial arts demonstration, included a form performance followed by a short scripted battle. The troupe then staged an sophisticated display of kicks which involved breaking apples into the audience. "It [the audience] watched with awe the traditional sections and then grooved to the modern, upbeat portions," Chan said. "Everyone got really involved."

—Aglaya Glebova

Jump Start



Vlad Lodoaba

In what has become an all too common scene on campus in the recent bitter cold, *Matt Sesno '06 tries to resuscitate his car's battery.*

J-Term Enlivens Lecture Circuit

By Aglaya Glebova
Features Editor

A News-Worthy Talk: Newsweek Editor on Midd, Career Paths and the Media

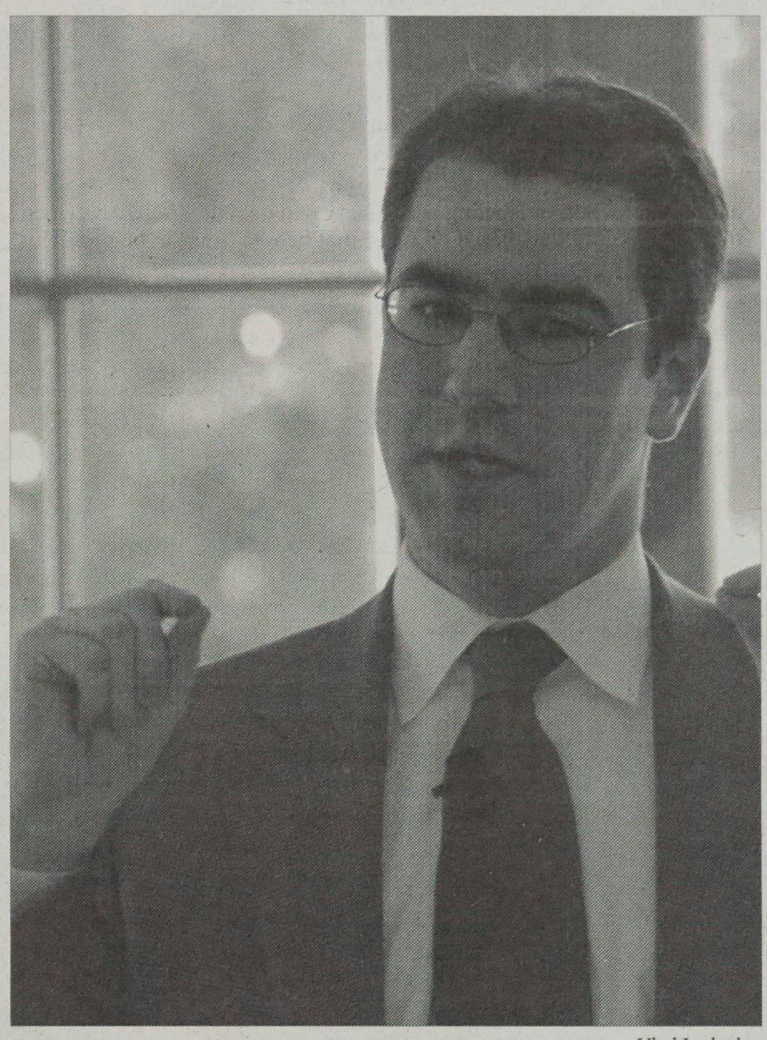
William J. Dobson '95 delivered the latest installment in the "What's a Liberal Arts Education Got to Do with It? Making a Difference in a Globalized World" lecture series on Jan. 19 with his speech entitled "Making Headlines".

Dobson, named *Newsweek* International's Senior Editor of Asia in June 2002, oversees the magazine's coverage of Asia, defined as "everything from Afghanistan to Japan." In his first year on the job, *Newsweek's* Asia coverage received six awards from the Society of Publishers in Asia, a record for any publication. Dobson was recently named "New Asia Leader" at the World Economic Forum's 2003 Summit in Singapore.

Dobson started the lecture with a description of his hectic days at *Newsweek* and proceeded to humorously recount the impassioned editorial meetings and his dealings with writers. He said that the thing he enjoyed most about working at *Newsweek* was "how steep the learning curve is. People are very good at what they do and they are very serious at it," he added.

Dobson then gave career advice to students in attendance. "*Newsweek's* most valuable staff members are versatile players, people with a multiple set of skills," he said. "If you're leaving Middlebury and you're a talented writer and can think analytically and logically about a problem, you've got an enormous leg up," he continued.

The lecture concluded with a student question about the recent media scandals and the trustworthiness of the press: "When you see it [the media] as a sausage factory that it is, people start questioning the news they read, and that's a good thing,"



Vlad Lodoaba

Newsweek *International Senior Editor William J. Dobson '95 speaks to an eager Robert A. Jones '59 crowd about journalism and covering Asia.*

Margolis' Poetry: From Local to Universal

An audience of 30 people gathered on Jan. 23 to hear selections from Gary Margolis' new book of poetry called "Fire in the Orchard."

Margolis, an associate pofessor of english and director/psychologist at the Counseling Center, strung together the first several poems, one of which "honored the cold we've been going through." Another commemorated January, when "all 18 machines [the author owns] tend to break down." He dedicated a third called "Communique on Cork" to Antarctic explorers.

Middlebury and Vermont-inspired themes dominated the second half of the reading. Margolis recited poems about the Cornwall-Middlebury Underground Railroad, the Grateful Dead concerts in Vermont, and even a NCAA play-off hockey game between Middlebury and Plattsburgh State.

Margolis' compositions were inspired by varied and unrelated events. "Night Call to You and the Wind of Chernobyl" stemmed from a midnight call from a writer friend living in Yugoslavia at the time of the Chernobyl disaster. "Very Rough Flight," inspired by the "cataloguing" literary tradition, detailed a poet's flight over Boston. Another selection, "The Other Flag," alluded to the Iraq war. The last poem dealt with, as Margolis said, "what it is for you that you can't leave without." In his case, reading..

Doctoral Candidate Infuses Medieval Literature with a Sense of Modernity

Students, faculty, and staff crowded into the Robert A. Jones '59 Conference Room on Jan. 20 to listen to a lecture on Fada'il literature presented by doctoral candidate Zayde Antrim.

Antrim is doing her doctoral research in the Middle Eastern History Department at Harvard University. Fada'il literature extols the merits and virtues of Muslim holy places. During the lecture, Antrim noted that medieval texts provide "examples of popular historiography." In addition, the texts offer "insight into how people write history and how the writing of history changes over time."

For the majority of the lecture, Antrim spoke about Fada'il literature in specialized historical and religious terms, however, she concluded on a universal note, saying that the texts are "relevant, reflective of deeply held beliefs, as well as politically charged [subjects] today."

Pop rocks

by Lanford Beard

As of Tuesday, 2004 is no longer the Year of the Monkey. It's the Year of the Underdog.

Taking a cue from the aftermath of Adrien Brody's dark horse trot up to the stage last spring, this year's Oscar gods have stacked the decks in most categories with a mélange of quirky charmers and no-name faces.

The good news for the suits is that they can suck us dry just that little bit more by promoting movies like "Pieces of April," "Lost in Translation" and "Monster" that until Tuesday had one foot out the theater door.

The good news for us is that we don't have to see Nicole Kidman's smug face for any longer than necessary. Not to mention the fact that the possibility of Adrian planting one on Diane Keaton or the girl from "Whale Rider" is perversely hilarious.

I won't waste your or my time with the contest for Best Picture of Best Director. "Lord of the Rings" will win. This award has been coming for years, and I am pretty sure at least two statuettes have already been engraved with Peter Jackson's name.

Another category with few surprises, Best Actor, has the most potential for ridiculousness.

With his sly and seductive turn in "Pirates of the Caribbean," Johnny Deep seems to have finally (and ironically) convinced snooty Academy voters that he has depth and talent.

Likewise Bill Murray joins the ranks of actors who have transitioned from comedic dolts du hier to Academy darlings, a group that includes this year's doubtless winner, Sean Penn, who has received three previous nominations with no wins. A loss this year would put Penn in Tom Cruise territory.

The category also brings in previous nominees who have seemingly been recognized for the inconceivability of their current roles.

For example, if Jude Law wins for "Cold Mountain," it will be solely on the basis of his shameless eye smoldering while eking out the worst Southern accent in the history of film in order to utter such profundities as "I work wood." Or perhaps former winner for "Ghandi" Ben Kingsley could grab the gold for "The House of Sand and Fog," a riveting saga over real estate acquisitions in which he plays an Iranian man. What?

On the women's side, we learned last year that Ugly = Oscar, so it looks like Charlize Theron and Renee Zellweger will take the trophies.

Otherwise, small victories, including the nominations for non-blonde, non-glamorous actresses like 13-year-old Keisha Castle-Hughes from "Whale Rider" and Shoreh Aghdashloo for "The House of Sand and Fog," were flying left and right in the ladies' categories.

Ultimately, of course, this proliferation of unlikely nominees only makes the winner that much clearer, but for the next month immeasurable pleasure will come from my many musings on the potential for chaos that is brewing in Tinseltown.

Brewed Awakenings: Activism Meets Art

By Sadie Hoagland
Staff Writer

Arts Memo

We go to breakfast. We groggily stare at the coffee machines. One says "Fair Trade" and the other is our usual "Eye-Opener" blend. We each make our choice, maybe even without thinking about it.

At lunch we read signs all over campus about sweatshop labor, SUVs and organic gardening. And by dinner we are filled with shame at not being able to finish our stroganoff and lower our eyes as we hand the less-than-empty plate to someone who glares with disgust before weighing exactly how much food we waste while the rest of the world starves.

So how do we know which causes to support, and how do we convince our classmates to support our own campaigns for change?

Chris Martin of Coldplay performs with "Make Trade Fair" written across his piano. Middlebury College Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez sets her fiction in the all too real setting of the coffee plantation. And students Michael Rimoin '05 and Blake Lyons '05 jam at a gethering in Allen Lounge to promote Fair Trade Coffee.

Artistic expression is an incredibly effective way for us to learn and raise awareness. We have plenty of talent of all types at Middlebury, and we have plenty of campaigns. But rarely are the two mixed.

Art, unlike many other forms of communication, has an uncanny way of emphasizing the importance of things like Fair Trade coffee without turning people off. With this potential for social change, artists, you might even say, have a responsibility to use their art and influence ethically.

In pursuit of the truth about the recent Fair Trade coffee debate, I spoke to Bill Eichner, who, with his wife, Julia Alvarez, started up their own organic and Fair-Trade coffee farm in the Dominican Republic where they grow Café Alta Gracia. Eichner has also been a supportive resource for the student-driven campaign for Fair Trade coffee in the dining halls.

After my knowledge about the meaning of terms like fair trade, shade-grown, sustainable and organic had grown exponentially, I was immediately sold on the benefits of Fair Trade coffee. I became convinced that many of us would feel the same if we all had the time to sit down with Eichner or see pictures of the smiling bare foot children of the coffee farmers that attend the school they have set up on the farm to combat the local 90 percent illiteracy rate. I began to wonder how we might tell this story and create change at Middlebury and elsewhere.

I asked Eichner about Alvarez's role in the project as a prominent writer. He explained that her fame as a writer has helped a lot to gain support for their project. For those unfamiliar with our Writer-in-Residence, Alvarez is Dominican-born but left the country at a young age as her family sought political refuge.

She became well-known in her native country when her novel *In the Time of the Butterflies*, a powerful story based on three Dominican women who stood up against the Trujillo dictatorship, was translated into Spanish.

Now, as their coffee farm has gained new partnership with local NGOs to become a demonstration farm, Eichner thinks her name has helped a lot in expanding their hopes for the farm.

> Through writing, photography and art, we cannot help but see the humanity behind abstractions like "Fair Trade Coffee"

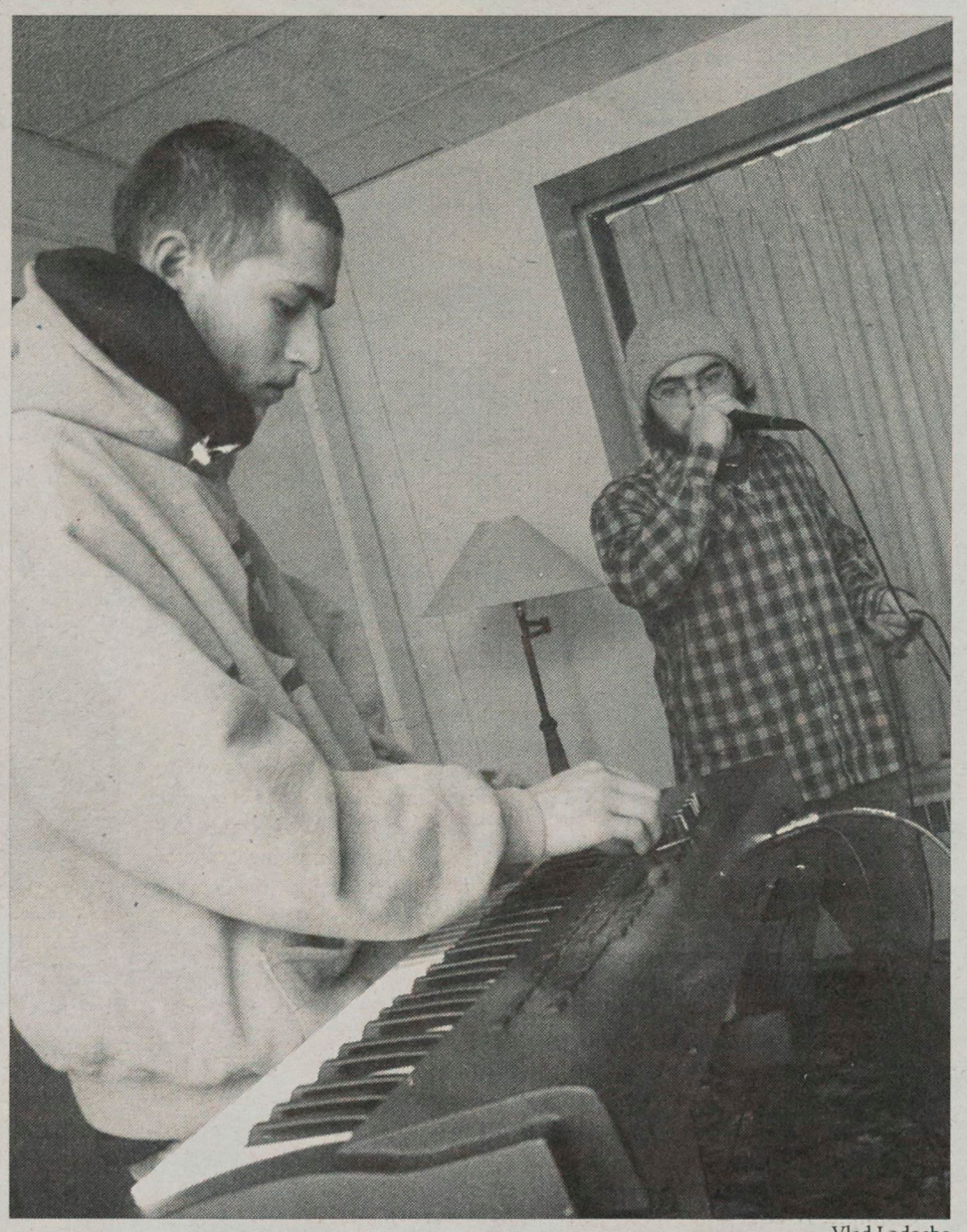
Perhaps even more noteworthy is Alvarez's novella, *A Cafecito Story*, which tells the story of coffee farming through fiction. Eichner encouraged her to write this story and explained that to read about the coffee situation as a story means that you "can't help but be taken in as to what it all means."

Through writing, photography and art, we cannot help but see the humanity behind abstractions like "Fair Trade Coffee."

In the music world, bands have also started to use their influence to spread larger messages. Coldplay's Martin makes his support of Make Trade Fair.com well known. He also invites Oxfam to educate about free trade at his concerts. The band helped collect three million signature for a "Make Trade Fair Campaign" and travelled to Cancun, Mexico for last fall's World Trade Organization negotiations. Though he insists, "It's very hard to find things that rhyme with North American Free Trade Agreement," he persists in supporting his cause.

As student artists there is much to be done, even without fame.

In Allen Lounge last Tuesday evening Rimoin and Lyons showcased their unique combination of beat-boxing and electric keyboards as part of a coffeehouse featuring Fair Trade coffee. The event helped promote the movement to bring only Fair Trade coffee to campus dining halls by showcasing both the coffee and artistic talent.



Vlad Lodoaba

Michael Rimoin '05 and Blake Lyons '05 jam at the "Fair Trade Coffee Coffee House" Tuesday evening in Allen Hall.

The musicians learned from the evening as well. Lyons admitted that he previously did not know much about Fair Trade Coffee but definitely supported its cause.

"Anything we can do to help out to change the unfair terms we've set up over the last century," added Rimoin.

By using their art to try to make an ethical difference, these artists help us become aware of these important social and environmental issues in a way that can speak to us more personally than posters and bumper stickers.

It is still important and effective whether it comes from a popular international rock band, an award-winning author, or fellow student musicians.

Even those of us who are not artists can push for more cause-oriented art shows and concerts. We can push for Middlebury to re-establish ties with Eichner and Alvarez's coffee project. A few years ago, a Winter Term writing workshop took place on the farm where students worked on community projects and writing, connecting art directly to a global cause.

Middlebury should maintain that kind of inspiration in its curriculum and on its campus.

Where Bohr Meets Ballet: The Dance of Physics

Albert Bitici

Members of the "Dance of Physics" class applied their lessons in a public performance Tuesday night.

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor

Barefoot students mostly dressed in T-shirts and sweatpants sit comfortably in a circle on the floor of the Center for the Arts (CFA) Dance Studio. The dance floor is empty save for a pile of foam blocks in one corner and a large red exercise ball in another. Light technicians seated in the audience huddle over a computer trying out different combinations of lights. The stage is brightly lit one moment, washed completely in blue the next and then doused in darkness. Students giggle with the changing lights, but mostly stay focused on the discussion at hand led by Andrea Olsen, professor of dance, and Rich Wolfson, Benjamin F. Wissler professor of physics, both of whom are also barefoot and dressed in loose, comfortable clothing. The students are wearing red or yellow T-shirts — the different colors, Wolfson, explained, represent the yolk and white of an egg. The egg featured in a dance that the class has been working on that explains the second law of thermodynamics, one of the fundamental laws of physics.

"The Dance of Physics" is one of 22 interdisciplinary courses offered this Winter Term. "I've always been interested in dance," said Wolfson, "not as a dancer, but as someone who watches dance." Wolfson, this year, found himself "able to teach an interesting, innovative Winter Term course." He paired up with Olsen, who described herself as having a passion for science, to explore the combination of dance and physics in a way not often considered. Instead of exploring the physics associated with dance, "The Dance of Physics" aimed to express more abstract aspects of physics such as the second law of thermodynamics and wave-particle duality of light. Exploration was also made into the physics of

See J-term, page 23

'Capsize' Captures Human Connections

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

Middlebury graduate Jon Sherman and his collaborator Julie Beauvais started with the simple phrase, "A couple separates," and from the feelings, images and ideas that this phrase generated, they began to create "Capsize," the stunning evening of theater that Sherman and his company "sprung" performed in Wright Theater on Jan. 17.

Without using any words and only a small amount of vocalization in the final scene, the company eloquently engaged the audience in a deeply emotional journey and movingly depicted the dissolution of the central couple's relationship. The style of the piece moved back and forth from very specific, defined movements to very abstract motion that was largely improvisational within the framework of the story being told.

The whole piece was a beautiful exploration of the way that people relate to each other in all sorts of situations.

The set for the piece was very simple. A large piece of neutrally colored cloth covered the stage until a moment near the end when the woman in the couple (Cherise Silvestri) gathered it up almost like an enormous, billowy comfort blanket. There were also five chairs on the stage that were moved and used throughout the piece for various purposes, only sometimes for sitting. The final set pieces were six buckets of water that were used as drinking vessels at times and were finally emptied of their contents in the great storm that signaled the final capsize of the couple's relationship.

Every segment of the piece had a very distinct tone created by the perfect choices of music and by the striking lighting design. The audience was taken seamlessly from the subtle lighting and frenetic feeling of the second scene where the couple performed their regular daily routine to the accompaniment of music with the spirit and energy of an Irish jig to scenes where intense red lighting and throbbing techno music set the backdrop for the man's (Sherman) seduction. The lighting in the seduction scene threw the silhouettes of the girl dancing slowly and enticingly and of the man being drawn ever closer towards her up in stark black outline on the vibrant red wall, so that through their shadows the actors achieved larger than life proportions at this moment of betrayal.

One of the other scenes that was particularly moving was the final segment when the couple had come back together in an embrace but then slowly and painfully began to tear apart. Every time they began to lose physical contact, however, one of the girls in the chorus would rush forward and replace their arms around each other. It was like the last desperate attempts of a child to reconcile separated parents. The moment was particularly intense, because her vocalizations of frustration when other members of the chorus would try to restrain her were the only vocal sounds in the whole production. The audience never felt the lack of them elsewhere, but their presence in this scene drew particular attention.

The whole piece was a beautiful exploration of the way that people relate to each other in all sorts of situations, from brushing their teeth in the morning to parties and awkward social situations where we are all really performing.

Mr. Tamborine Man

Vlad Lodoaba

Performing for a healthy sized audience, *Middle Eastern music group Sharq aptly explored the rhythms of their native lands.*

Courtesy/Louisa Conrad

In Senior Daniel Pruksarnukul's "A Clockwork Orange," Jake Jeppson '06 is being brainwashed by the totalitarian government represented by Eric Blacher '05 and Katie Peters '06.

Senior Prods A Dobby 'Clockwork'

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor

Capturing the adventures of a young man whose interests are rape, ultra-violence and Beethoven within the confines of a small and minimalist theater may seem like an impossible task.

Senior theater major Daniel Pruksarnukul's production of "A Clockwork Orange" did just that in a crafty, comfortable and entertaining manner. The wild drama was performed in the Hepburn Zoo from Thursday, Jan. 15 to Saturday, Jan. 17.

"A Clockwork Orange" tells the story of a young man named Alex (Jake Jeppson '06), who is a bit of a hooligan — actually a sizeable thug. He swears, lies, drinks, rapes, mugs, beats and even kills without hesitation. He performs these hideous activities with his gang of four *droogs*. He represents the complete antithesis of an upstanding citizen.

That is where the totalitarian government comes in and rants about ridding the world of violence and crime. In a trial experiment, they administer a torture treatment to Alex. This so-called therapy removes Alex's free will and conditioned him to be physically sick at the thought of violence and sex. Unable to defend himself, Alex barely survives in the unwelcoming real world. The ending seems to suggest that Alex has grown tired of violence, mainly because of his natural maturation.

Drawing from both Anthony Burgess' book, originally published in 1962, and Stanley Kubrick's film, released in 1971, Pruksarnukul made a sound attempt at concocting a piece of "live theater." Burgess' novel was brilliant, inventive and witty. However, after viewing Kubrick's film, one simply could not visualize anything but his characters. Pruksarnukul skillfully made his characters stand outside the icons of Kubrick's cast.

The show was carried by Jeppson's Alex. As the tale's protagonist and occasional narrator, he gave an impressive performance. In an exercise of British language accentuation, his dialogue demonstrated confident fluidity, and he delivered his lines with the deliberation of a convincing American speaking like an English bloke. Jeppson's presence was symphonic, mimicking the intensity of Beethoven's enthralling music.

Alex's *droog* Dim, played by Eric Blacher '05, typified the dim-witted sidekick. His delivery was credible and his presentation was polished. Alex's other *droog* George (Michael Ratpojanakul '06) also contributed a convincing performance.

While Alex was being treated in prison, he had the pleasure of encountering an attractive nurse, played by Katie Peters '06. Her gestures were seductive and humorous, and she elicited a handful of chuckles from the audience. Lucia Stoller '05 commanded similar attention in her roles as a waitress and seductress.

The Minister of the Interior (Rebecca Kanengiser '05) embodied the political mindset of the deranged government of "A Clockwork Orange." Kanengiser's poise was notable, and her desire to glorify the cutting-edge work of the government was discrete. When she sat down with the "treated" Alex, she made it appear that the administration actually cared about the patient.

In adapting "A Clockwork Orange" to the stage, Pruksarnukul had to account for the large number of characters in the story. His choice was to have each cast member play up to four roles, which meant four different English accents. The latter requirement posed some problems. The first set of accents was acceptable, some weaker than others but still respectable attempts at imitating British English. As new characters took the stage, the pronunciations progressively waned and became more distracting than persuasive.

A strong point of "A Clockwork Orange" was the musical score. Music played a key role in transitioning from scene to scene and helped to set the tone on stage.

Kubrick's film was not a pretty or comfortable experience — in fact, it was quite discomforting to watch. However it demanded thought and compelled attention. Pruksarnukul's rendition made the sex and violence a lot easier to digest, and he addressed the issue of the dehumanization of people with a bit more sensitivity.

The message of Pruksarnukul's play was pertinent to the political and social climates of the world today. One cannot change a person, a person's views or a person's action with violence, science or drugs.

Pruksarnukul structured "A Clockwork Orange" in a crowd-pleasing way. The treatment of violence and sex was unique and showed his ability to adapt Kubrick's visual flair and intensity to the stage. He transformed Alex's unforgettable *ins-and-outs* into monologues that made the leading man look heartless and his victims look helpless.

The fights were performed in slow motion, and the actors' dramatizations of the scenes were hypnotic. Their expressions and coordinated sequences definitely won over the audience.

The message of Pruksarnukul's play was pertinent to the political and social climates of the world today. One cannot change a person, a person's views or a person's action with violence, science or drugs. People do not change — just their illusions do. The keys to the mind are understanding and realizing — not shoving ideals down people's throat. People must understand where they come from and then they can be guided to where they should be going. Pruksarnukul covered it all.

"A Clockwork Orange" was well worth a viddy. In the spirit of creating words, Pruksarnukul's show was scrumptrulescent — wildly delightful in a darkly humorous style.

Blowin' Indie Wind

by Erika Mercer

The artist: Sun Kil Moon
The album: "Ghosts of the Great"
Release Date: Oct. 21, 2003

Featured on WRMC's "Album of the Week" this Sunday, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

In the 1950s, Hemingway coined the "tip of the iceberg" technique — he believed that, like an iceberg, which only reveals one-eighth of itself above water, a story should also only reveal the most essential information. A writer should show "only the tip of what may be a huge conflict." With his new album, "Ghosts Of The Great Highway," Mark Kozelek has embraced this technique, molding atmosphere and complexity through the subtlest means. While his music possesses a denseness foreign to Hemingway's stark prose, the sentiment behind the music shows a common understated quality.

"Ghosts Of The Great Highway," released under the band name, Sun Kil Moon, is Kozelek's newest project and marks a significant departure from the music he produced with his former band, The Red House Painters. Recorded together with American Music Club drummer Tim Mooney, ex-Black Lab bassist Geoff Stanfield, Red House Painters drummer Anthony Koutsos, and a three-piece string section, "Ghosts Of The Great Highway" is Kozelek's first original material to hit shelves since 2001's "Songs For A Blue Guitar," released under The Red House Painters.

In the years between, Kozelek recorded two albums of AC/DC cover-songs, "Rock 'N' Roll Singer EP" and "What's Next To The Moon," and dabbled in film, starring in Cameron Crowe's film, "Almost Famous," as Larry Fellows, the bassist in the fictional 70s band, Stillwater. Yet Kozelek never intended to stray permanently from song writing. He explains, "I'd say that after I'd got the movie out of my system and after I'd done the AC/DC stuff, I totally got back on track with writing."

The result is "Ghosts Of The Great Highway" which, upon first listen, may not sound all that different from the yearning folk-rock music created together with The Red House Painters. Kozelek's expressive, moaning voice and layers of electric guitar still guide the sound, bestowing it with an otherworldly, almost psychedelic quality. Yet a closer listen will betray a new maturity to the songs — the texture is denser and more complex, and the tone is more self-assured. Kozelek's vocals have found their place a little further in the background, behind several layers of guitar, which places him deeper within his music. There is no distance between Kozelek and his songs — they are as human as he is. "Ghosts Of The Great Highway" flaunts a level of grace and confidence new to Kozelek's songwriting.

The subject matter of the songs is testament to this maturation. As oppose to The Red House Painter's songs, which told tale upon tale of new love, old love and lost love, Sun Kil Moon adopts fresher subject matter and an older, more jaded perspective. Several of the songs are about boxers — especially promising boxers who died young. The album's third song, "Salvador Sanchez," for example, is named after the featherweight boxer (Sanchez) who died in his early twenties, and "Duk Koo Kim," the eighth song, also relates the story of a South Korean boxer who died at age 23. Kozelek's obsession with unlucky boxers is strangely fitting, though — it suits the raw, vulnerable and persevering quality of his music. With each tale, the listener realizes that Kozelek's music is much like the boxing — simultaneously beautiful and violent, defensive and offensive, controlled and emotional.

Yet a closer listen will betray a new maturity to the songs — the texture is denser and more complex, and the tone is more self-assured.

"Ghosts Of The Great Highway" is an album of often-epic length. With songs lasting up to 14 minutes, Kozelek would have time to tell much more than one-eighth of the story. But while some songs stretch on perhaps longer than they should, Kozelek's saving grace is his ability to keep us wondering. Like Hemingway, he only provides his audience with the bare minimum, evoking a mysterious mood and weaving cryptic tales. The result is a masterpiece — a confident, beautifully subtle and polished album.

Quartet Strikes High Note

Belcea's Four Feed Fervor into Classics

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

On Friday, Jan. 16, the young Belcea quartet filled the halls of the Middlebury College Center for the Arts (CFA) with the lively music of Haydn, Britten and Beethoven.

They summoned a full house, consisting of mostly adults from Middlebury and elsewhere, some children and an enthusiastic pod of Middlebury College music department members near the front of the stage. Middlebury students were oddly few in number.

The quartet was established at the Royal College of Music in London, although only the violinists, Corina Belcea and Laura Samuel, are English, while the violist Krzystof Chorzelski and cellist Alasdair Tait hale from farther east.

Their diverse nationalities were evident in their playing styles. Though they were all four coached together under the Chilingirian Quartet, it was much more enjoyable to watch the violist and cellist, as well as the second violinist.

Violist Chorzelski was especially interactive and facially expressive, which enhanced his rich sound. Second violinist Samuel wore a long glittery dress and was equally expressive, her body movement and closed eyes conveying her connection with the music. Cellist Tait appeared older than the rest, and his gentle presence had a soothing effect on the otherwise intense group.

Ironically, it was only first violinist Belcea, for whom the quartet is named, who was not particularly enjoyable to watch. Though she was technically flawless, she was otherwise lacking, too serious and formal for the friendly vibe emitted by the other three. It was difficult to get involved in the music because she appeared so uninvolved.

The program began with Baroque composer Joseph Haydn's String Quartet in C Major (1770), one of his total 68 string quartets, "a genre, of which he was more nearly the literal 'father' than the symphony," as the program notes explained.

With this quartet Haydn helped establish the four-movement form with two outer fast movements, a slow movement and a minuet, as well as a greater emotional range, which by today's standards is insignificant. The piece was generally cheerful, simplistic and very Baroque in its repetitiveness.

The highlight of the evening was modern composer Benjamin Britten's String Quartet No.1 in D Major (1942).

An English composer, conductor and pianist, Britten imbued his works with his own personal concerns, like his fascination with men and boys and his fiercely held pacifist beliefs. The piece was entertaining for its various effects, making full use of harmonics, bow tapping and pizzicato to evoke curious sounds from the instruments.

The opening movement grabbed the audience's attention at once — its sound was dreamy and alien-like, and marked by harsh harmonics, violent bursts of double stops and Belcea and Tait's solo parts. The slurring was a little heavy-handed at times, perhaps more a sign of their youth than of any lack of musical expertise.

The musicians summoned the thundering of an impending storm, their instruments interacting as if painting a collage which then joined in a majestic unison, only to chase each other's sounds across the hall again.

The following three movements were equally dramatic and entertaining. The musicians summoned the thundering of an impending storm, their instruments interacting as if painting a collage which then joined in a majestic unison, only to chase each other's sounds across the hall again.

After intermission, Beethoven's String Quartet "Razumovsky" in E-minor (1806) was underwhelming in comparison to the Britten, despite the virtuosic passages played by Belcea. The first movement reminded me of the regal 19th-century court scene, while the second movement, the adagio, was long, beautiful and sad, the musicians seeming ready to cry with their puffy-eyed expressions.

The Belcea Quartet was well appreciated here in Middlebury. The Quartet is rapidly gaining a reputation as one of the leading quartets of the younger generation. Since the autumn of 2001, they have been the Resident Quartet of Wigmore Hall in London and, in July 2002, signed a recording contract with EMI Classics.

Vlad Lodoaba

Violinist Laura Samuel, a member of the young and expressive Belcea Quartet, performed on Jan. 16.

Vlad Lodoaba

Campus band Larson kicks of its debut tour with a performance at The Grille. The young group is working on polishing its sound.

Staking Out Larson's Raw Talent

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

Larson blends the sounds of acoustic, electric and bass guitars, keyboards, saxophone and drums to create a rich, almost palpable aural offering.

Middlebury College student group Larson exhibited a developing sound last Friday night on the Grille stage. Composed of four sophomores, a sophomore Feb and one junior Feb, Larson blends the sounds of acoustic, electric and bass guitars, keyboards, saxophone and drums to create a rich, almost palpable aural offering.

It is precisely this fullness of sound that at once attracts audiences and renders the group a little remote upon first listen. Also evident is the fact that a considerable amount of talent resides within the Larson group members — time should serve the group well, affording them an opportunity to further tighten their sound and truly discover a musical and stage identity and presence.

Formed approximately one year ago, founding members Jon Larson '06, Josh Bookin '06 and Conor Sheldon '05.5 first collaborated on the recommendation of event coordinators at last year's installment of the Middlebury Battle of the Bands, an event that sees talents from the college compete against each other in a more or less relaxed atmosphere.

Alex Banys '06.5 later joined the nascent group on drums, providing a rhythmic backdrop to Sheldon and Bookin's singer-songwriter inclinations. Chris Lizotte '06 was then incorporated into the fold, bringing the texture and challenging nature of the bass and tenor sax to an already full sound.

Finally, sophomore Chris Nielson added his keyboard talent after guitarist Drew Peterson '03 graduated. With a daunting lineup of instruments comparable to a Dave Matthews-esque setup, a distinct opportunity presented itself for Larson's young members.

However, the very same opportunity that group members provided by forming a formidable and rich instrumentation backdrop can complicate attempts to tighten the group's overall sound.

Larson's overall musical offering needs to coalesce a bit. Each individual member brings a lot to the plate — saxophone and keyboards complement guitar lines and percussion. At the times when all of the instruments mesh, the listener is treated to a lush offering that can sometimes take other bands years to develop.

Over the next few months, it will be imperative for the group to be vigilant in its search for a clearly defined, consistent identity. Despite their flashes of excellence, each member should concentrate on bending his will to focus his energy toward the overall group sound, whether that means sacrificing some of their own solo time, or simply polishing a guitar riff or saxophone blast.

With a group like Larson, jamming is an important aspect of the larger aural submission. Keeping this in mind, lead singers Sheldon and Bookin should continue to explore the opportunities that jamming provides while keeping the band focused on going, for a while, in one clearly defined musical direction.

This is always easier said than done, but the College music scene should serve them well in this respect. A young band often arrives at and abandons a new sound or style within the span of a single show, so each playing opportunity that presents itself should be pounced on.

This seems to be precisely what Larson plans to do, as the group is attempting to book shows at area colleges and other various locations over Spring Break. In reference to its first tour, Sheldon said, "We're overjoyed to play anywhere in the area, have no problem living out of a van for a week, and can't wait to see where it will go!"

Let this be a heads-up to college events promoters and good-time seekers alike — if you want a young band full of energy that will get the crowd excited and involved, Larson is for you.

Editors' Picks

(Hey, get outta town.)

Erika's Pick

99.9 The Buzz and Sam Adams Welcome YELLOWCARD THE FORMAT: Punk-pop quintet Yellowcard formed in Jacksonville, Fla., in 1997 but did not solidify their line-up until a move to southern California in early 2000. Comprised of vocalist/guitarist Ryan Key, vocalist/violinist Sean Mackin, guitarist Ben Harper, drummer Longineu Parsons and bassist Alex Lewis, the band officially debuted on wax in 2001 with "One for the Kids" and returned a year later with the "Underdog" EP. Last year marked a big year for the group — it saw them signing with Capitol, issuing "Ocean Avenue" on the label and heading out for a series of Warped Tour dates.

Date: Saturday, Jan. 31
Where: Higher Ground, Winooski
When: Doors open 8 p.m. | All ages
Price: $9.99 advance | $12 day of show
Info: www.highergroundmusic.com

Chris' Pick

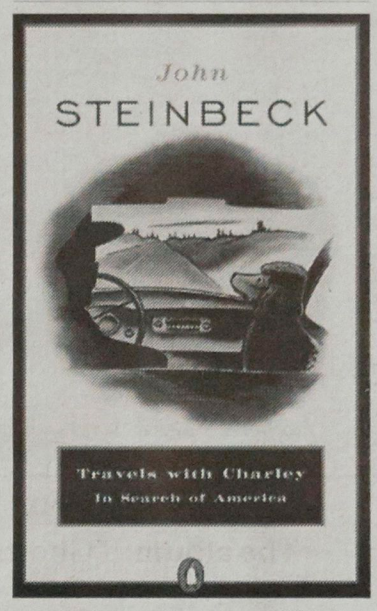
The Broadway National Tour "Kiss Me, Kate": Cole Porter's Broadway musical smash hit reinvents Shakepeare's "Taming of the Shrew" in this saucy battle of the sexes. With great choreography, costumes and sets and an unforgettable score (including the classic songs "Too Darn Hot," "Wunderbar," "Another Op'nin, Another Show," "So in Love" and "Always True to You in My Fashion"), "Kiss Me, Kate" is Broadway at its best!

Date: Saturday, Jan. 31
Where: Flynn Mainstage, Burlington
When: 8 p.m.
Price: $28 - $48 | Students and children 17 and under save $4 off top two tiers
Info: www.flynncenter.com

Literary Picks

by Edward Pickering

Title: "Travels With Charley: In Search of America"
Author: John Steinbeck
First Publication: 1961



In the opening pages of "Travels with Charley," John Steinbeck explains his decision to leave his Long Island home and embark on a four-month odyssey around America with Charley, a French poodle, as his only companion.

"For many years I have travelled in many parts of the world. In America I live in New York, or dip into Chicago or San Francisco. But New York is no more America than Paris is France or London is England. Thus I discovered that I did not know my own country. I, an American writer, writing about America, was working from memory, and the memory is at best a faulty, warpy reservoir."

Steinbeck equips himself with all the necessities for four months on the road, including a brand new pickup truck with a cabin built atop for the bed. At the outset Steinbeck decides he will reconnect with his country by speaking and listening to as many people as cross his path. In times of solitude Charley proves an ideal listener.

The year is 1960 and the America that Steinbeck knew when he was young is vanishing. From the northernmost tip of Maine to the outskirts of Seattle, Steinbeck encounters the inexorable forces of commercialization and growth.

He finds the California town of his childhood and youth much changed, grown larger and busier. But never in all his travels does Steinbeck yield to fruitless grumbling — he does not lament a lost past but instead judiciously assesses an uncertain future.

Steinbeck's powers as an observer are great and most evident in his account of the Deep South, then in the throes of desegregation.

"Travels with Charley" is an unassuming book — the author's voice is wise and gentle. In search of answers, at the end of his book Steinbeck can only offer generalized conclusions.

By no means, though, does the absence of any concluding revelation detract from the journey. It makes no difference where Steinbeck finds himself — Deer Isle, Maine or the Badlands of the Dakotas — for he brings an illuminating intelligence to bear on everything within range.

Charley proves a grand, if obstinate, sidekick. And "Travels with Charley" offers a great read — a simple book by one of the our nation's greatest chroniclers.

'Electra' Jolts Audience with Social Relevance

By Joyce Man
Staff Writer

If audiences expected last week's "Electra" to be a simple drama, they were met with a heavier dose of symbolic color, choral chanting and precisely executed movement.

Sophocles' play tells of the bloody tragedy in the house of Agamemnon, where his children, Electra and Orestes, avenge his murder by plotting their mother's and her lover's death. Under Kate Pines-Schwartz's incisive direction, Sophocles' 2,000 year-old play breathed new life as a deeply provocative social commentary.

What tied all these elements of "Electra" together was the chorus. Pines-Schwartz placed the chorus center stage along with Electra, Orestes and Crysothemis, and suitably so, for Sophocles' play focuses as much on the internal conflict of the main personae as it evokes questions of justice, vengeance and dishonor.

Whatever the intention, Pines-Schwartz delivered the messages, and no less with symbol and color. The use of stage lights on the white drapery and tiles was a smart way to bring the red of death and blue of divinity onto the same set using stage lights.

As such, "Electra" managed to strike a connection between audience and the drama onstage. The omnipresent chorus, always watching the unfolding doom, emphasized constantly the presence of society in every individual's actions.

When Electra cried for her loss of Orestes, all five members of the chorus mourned with her, and when Clytemnestra screamed in death at her son's hands, the chorus raised its distressed voice in crescendo.

Rachel Dunlap '06.5, Melissa Klein '07, Retta Leaphart '06, Julia Proctor '06.5 and Erin Twohig '06.5 never fell out of character during the performance, always standing at attention as spectators of the unfolding tragedy.

Liz Myers '04 gave the audience a multi-faceted Electra who was steadfastly committed to justice yet petrified at the same time. "I tried to emphasize the duality of [Electra's] position by letting fear and desperation peek through the mask of a strong physical presence and powerful voice," said Myers.

Myers' dance background provided her with balletic movements, gesturing to her character's steadfast conviction. She explains that Electra stood "firmly planted and gave attention to every aspect of [her] body."

Through a different set of movements, Myers managed also to convey Electra's stubbornness which, as Myers herself says, sometimes rendered Electra "a caged animal, with ample rage, desire and fear."

Also articulate in gesture and expression, Meghan Nesmith '06 spoke as much in action as in speech, providing an evocative contrast to Electra as Chrysothemis, the sympathetic yet disapproving sister.

Andrew Zox '04, who played the Pedagogus, cunningly described all the false details of Orestes' death with occasional mischievous side-glances to intimate his deception. Certainly, movement was a nonverbal emphasize to the audience to interact with the issues raised and, as Pines-Schwartz intended, acted as a "tool to more clearly communicate."

Vinson Cunningham's '06.5 convincing helplessness as Aegistheus left no question as to his talent. The coincidental racial questions that arose due to his casting, as the only African-American, in the role of Aegisthus, were much more provocative.

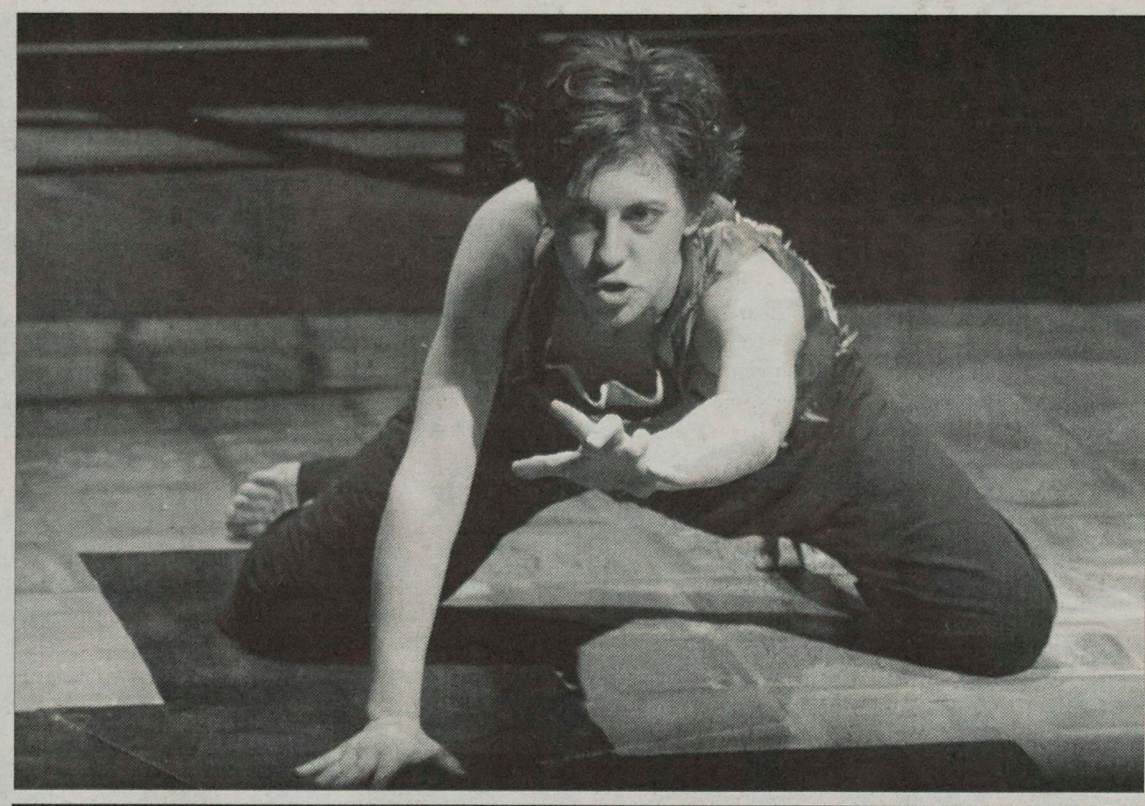
The picture of him being led to inevitable death was too reminiscent of forced slavery and wrongs done in America's past and seemed to be a tacit protest to the continuing policy of justice through war. It seemed to reflect Pines-Schwartz's position on our situation today: "We live in a world — and a country — that sees war as the only solution to conflict."

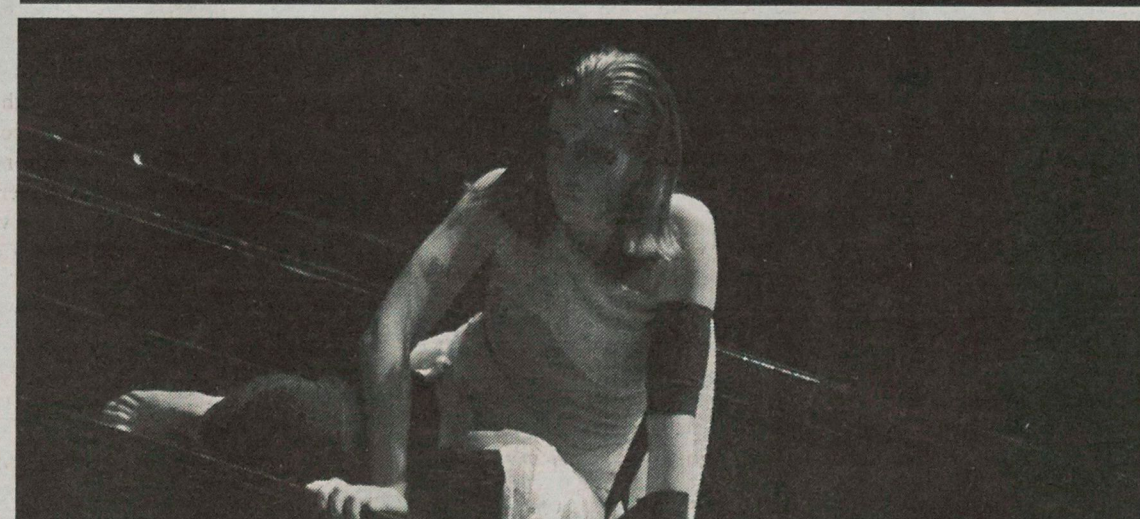
Whatever the intention, Pines-Schwartz delivers the messages with symbol and color. The use of stage lights on the white drapery and tiles was a smart way to bring the red of death and blue of divinity onto the same set using stage lights.

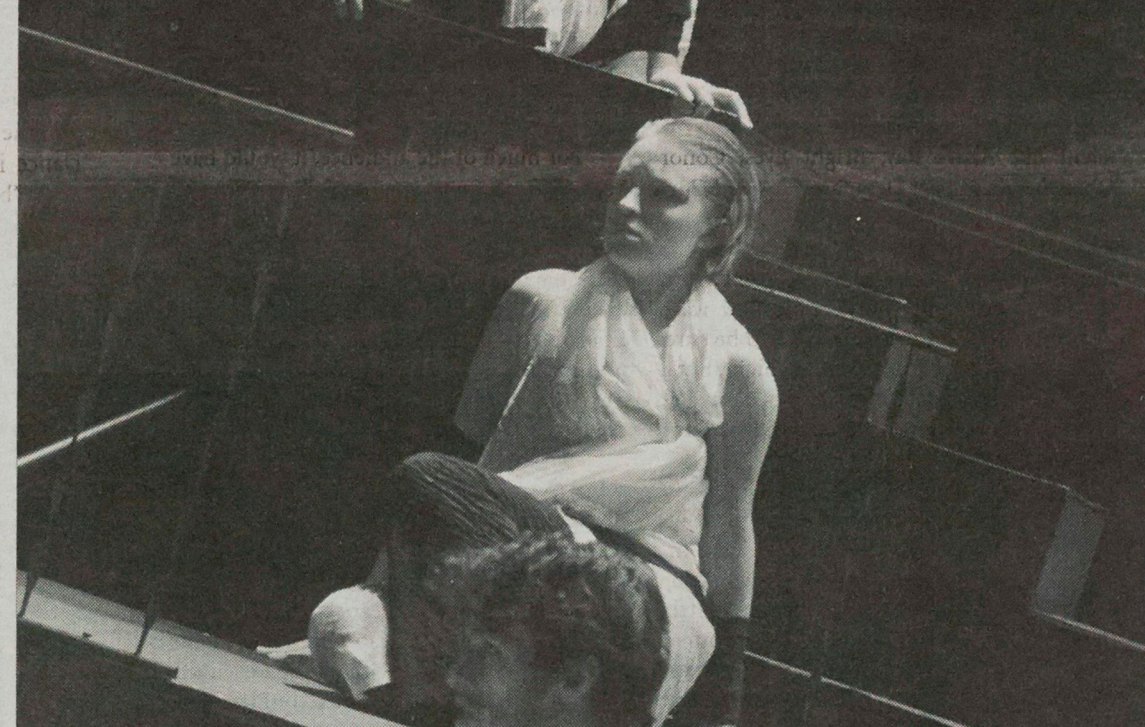
When under normal stage lights, it provided a neutral space through which each color — for example, Clytemnestra's seductive bloody red, Electra's sombre grays and Apollo's sky-blues — melded, clashed and dispersed. The interaction between the colors revealed the conflicts between each character.

Conflict and power were two subjects that director Pines-Schwartz dealt with. She explains, "We live in a frightening time. A time of violence and struggle and social crisis. 'Electra' written over 2,000 years ago, shows a society grappling with eerily similar issues [as the issues we deal with today]."

In the end, the characters ceased to be stereotypes and convinced us of our own fallibility in the cycle of unchecked violence that begets violence.







Albert Bitici

Top: Liz Myers '04 plays the title role as Electra. Middle: Junior Andrew Zox and members of the chorus dramatize the ancient Greek tragedy. Bottom: Audrey Laning '04 (left) gesturing with Vinson Cunningham's '06.5.

Rilo Kiley Riles Up New Eclectic Beats

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

When I was younger and I heard a song that I really liked or thought was especially wonderful, I would imagine what would happen if that song were played over some huge, universal loudspeaker system so that the entire city could hear it.

I always wondered how people would react or if they would stop in the street to listen to this song coming from nowhere. In short, I wondered if they would love it as much as I did.

I hadn't had this sensation for quite some time until about a month and a half ago, when I finally got my hands on a copy of The Postal Service's debut album. There are nine or 10 tracks on "Give Up" that made me wish that the whole world could hear them and, needless to say, it's been in my stereo every day for the last month and a half.

It is from this incredible background that Rilo Kiley lead singer Jenny Lewis and guitarist Blake Sennet hail, bringing the unique experience and collaborative effort to Forest Basement last Tuesday night.

Rilo Kiley recently switched labels, swapping one talent-packed organization for another.

Lewis and company released 2001's "Take-Offs and Landings" on Barsuk Records, home to fellow Postal Service collaborator Ben Gibbard's Death Cab for Cutie, The Long Winters, Nada Surf and John Vanderslice.

The group wasted no time in releasing their second full-length album in as many years, 2002's "The Execution of All Things," this time with Saddle Creek Records, whose band lineup reads like a scorecard of indie talent like Azure Ray, Bright Eyes, Conor Oberst's side project Desaparecidos and Cursive.

It is plain to see that Rilo Kiley has the utmost experience and involvement with the very best of the burgeoning new wave of young, indie pop rock groups. To be sure, they rocked very hard last Friday night, but a host of fresh talent in the form of Jake Bellows and the deliciously frenetic Tilly and the Wall, nearly stole the show.

The show began with the aforementioned Bellows, accompanied by a friend on electric guitar. His short set was tongue-in-cheek and darkly humorous, highlighted by a song whose subject matter included a terminally ill child who has a crush on his nurse. The nurse goes on to toy with his emotions, only to inform him that he might not die, but that he probably will.

Bellows took a different direction than what most audience members must have expected, but his set was refreshing and original, full of the kind of lyrics that most record labels would pay lots of money to have the rights to.

The incredible Omaha, Neb. group Tilly and the Wall followed Jake Bellows' set. Former Cursive member Stephen Pedersen summed up Tilly's sound remarkable well and succinctly when he stated, "Tilly and the Wall create jagged, elegant songs about secrets and kissing."

Upon first glance, it was apparent that this group would have something of substance to say to the audience, and a unique way to say it at that. All percussion was created by tap dancing on an elevated box, maracas, beating trashcans, clapping and stomping.

Power chords and a keyboard sound straight out of the Atari glory days rounded out an overall sound that was at once spare and surprisingly thorough. A cover of Outkast's ubiquitous "Hey Ya" was even included, performed to a bouncing and elated crowd. Their sound was tailored to be projected — hearing them live is like listening to some delightful tune through a megaphone.

When this group catches its break, and they should if there is any justice in the world, they already possess a sound perfectly suited for larger venues. Their recorded music, though limited at this point, is excellent.

Their live show, however, transcends the music. It is indeed an experience and music, in the words of a New Jersey Tilly concert audience member, "to I-M to, to get drunk to, to drive into sunsets to, to have snowball fights to, to fly kites on the beach to, to read Douglas Coupland to, to live life to."

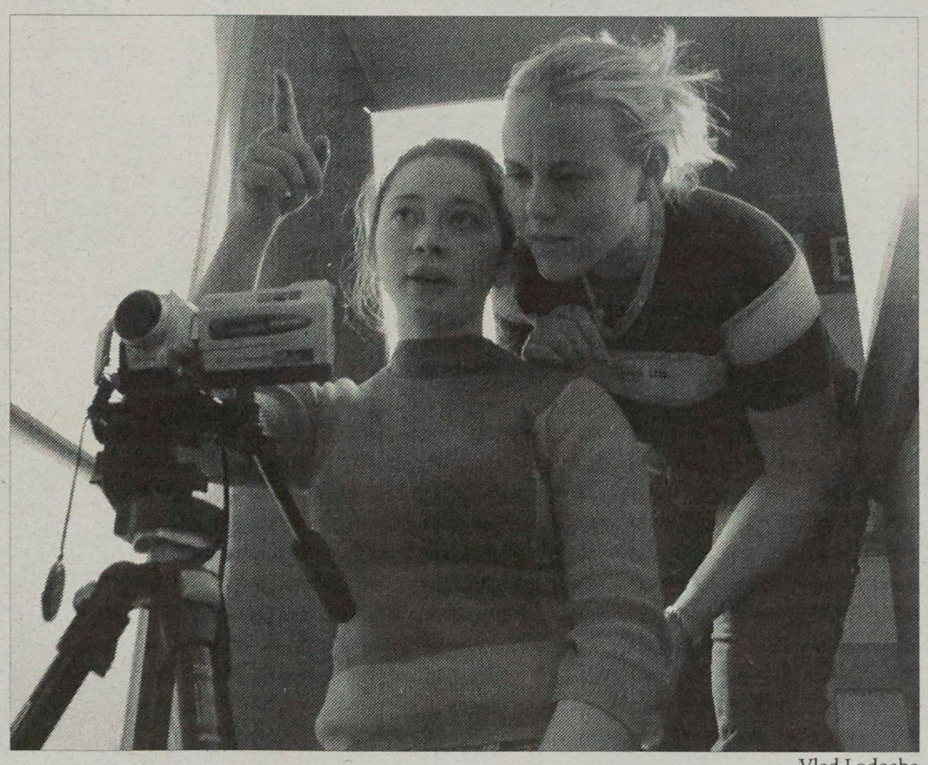
For much of the audience, it would have been difficult for anyone to follow Tilly and the Wall's performance, but follow it is exactly what Rilo Kiley did.

This was the group with the "star power" on the bill, if one could call it that. Jenny Lewis' plaintive, sugary vocals simultaneously plead with and dictated to the listener, exhibiting an instinctual sense of vocal control and power.

Blake Sennet's guitar slumped and strode, shuffled and sprinted, in addition to keeping the crowd in stitches in between songs. Forest basement witnessed a great show last Tuesday night, one that most would agree was more than anyone could have expected.

Rilo Kiley put the cap on a tremendous evening of music, enough to satiate even the most demanding alt-pop, faux-country bliss, indie fan.

Lights, Camera, Action!



Vlad Lodoaba

As part of their J-term class, *Tehani Pestalozzi '07 and Elizabeth Chatelain '07 work on editing their Sight & Sound project early this week.*

J-term Class Fuses Physics and Dance

Continued from page 18

dance, investigating how one most efficiently does a movement and how energy is used in dance, giving students the opportunity to explore the way their bodies work and move.

Interactive classes covered the spectrum of methods, from physics lectures to yoga workouts to screenings, and bridged both sides of campus. "A typical lecture – every Monday in Bicentennial hall – involves a lot of demonstrations of basic physics principles, and lecture and discussions that engages the students in "figuring out how things work," said Hope Stege '04.

"Dance class – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the CFA dance studio – usually starts with yoga, and then we do a variety of short movement series, learning how to play with our bodies, and paying attention to what we are experiencing." We have done a variety of progressions to get more comfortable with movement, and have also designed our own 30 second solos, performing them for one another." There was also a weekly screening where they watched dance clips from a variety of different styles, for example traditional ballet, hip hop and contact improve.

Wolfson and Olsen see their role not so much as teaching as applying themselves. "Rich and Andrea have done a great job of weaving together dance and physics, physics and dance," said Stege. "Rich participates in all of the dance sessions and Andrea readily challenges Rich's explanations of physics principles."

"I decided the first day that I would participate in all of the exercises in the dance portion of the class," said Wolfson, who hurt his leg on the first day in his enthusiasm.

"Dance is inherently interdisciplinary," said Olsen, "because it is always collaborative in some way. The world you observe is not independent from the observer, the dancers are influenced by the audience as the audience is influenced by the dancer."

> The chance to escape from every other area of academia with which I typically surround myself proved really valuable. I was challenged to think of the world in terms I had never before considered and pointed in directions that I probably wouldn't point myself in.
>
> — Lynne Zummo '06

The interdisciplinary nature was one of the major selling points of the class for many students.

"I'd say that the class has been a good balance [between the dance and the physics] with a bit more focus in the artsy realm," said Lynne Zummo '06. "The chance to escape from every other area of academia with which I typically surround myself proved really valuable. I was challenged to think of the world in terms I had never before considered and pointed in directions that I probably wouldn't point myself in."

The class finished and the group on the dance floor broke apart into smaller groups, some moving off into the wings to pick up jackets or bags, others started chatting. One student moved to the exercise ball and began moving with it, letting the weight of her leg or torso or arms roll it around on the floor. She concentrated only on the movement of her body and the ball, doing her own exploration of physics through dance.

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Women's Squash Falls to Jeffs

By Andreas Apostolatos
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's squash team had its three-game winning streak snapped at the Amherst Invitational, a two-day affair on Jan. 16-17. The Panther women suffered a 7-2 loss to host Amherst in the opening round, and a disheartening 5-4 defeat to Colby the following day, before managing to demolish Wesleyan 9-0 in their final matchup. While Middlebury did not have a stellar showing overall, first-year Hannah Baker and Holly Haertel '05 exhibited their dominance by winning all three of their matches. The duo has been fierce in both tournaments so far this season. At the top spot, Baker has won all but two of her seven matches, while Haertel is 6-1 at the number two position.

Amherst presented very tough competition for the Panthers. While the Lord Jeffs are only 6-4 on the season, all four of their losses have come at the hands of Division I teams. Aside from Baker and Haertel, senior Liza Franyo was the only other Panther that managed to make her presence felt by taking her opponent to a fifth and deciding game.

Against Colby, things were slightly more evenly matched, as Middlebury came just one victory shy of winning. Sophomores Caitlin Flint and Alexandra Polemis both notched victories in straight games at the number eight and nine spots, respectively.

Middlebury's victory over Wesleyan was never in question, with all nine Panther women managing to shut out their opponents 3-0.

"Holly and Hannah played masterfully," commented Polemis, who went 2-1 on the weekend. "We got some tough breaks against Colby, but it was good to at least come back home with one W."

Middlebury, currently 4-3 on the season, will travel to Mt. Holyoke for a tournament this weekend. On Feb. 8, the Panthers will host Vassar in a match that will be its final preparation before the storied Howe Cup at Yale during the weekend of Feb. 20-22.

Kayakers Splash into Limelight with Film

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Middlebury kayaking has gone Hollywood. The normally reclusive fringe sect of the Middlebury outdoor sports scene got red carpet treatment this week with the campus premier of *White Noise*, a kayaking film created by Middlebury students Alex Kinsey '03.5 and Nathaniel Vandal '06. After its raucous public presentation at Middlebury the film was selected for the prestigious National Kayaking Film Festival in February, where the two budding filmmakers will present their work to the national kayak community in Kentucky.

The fruit of several years of effort filming and editing river runs by notable College kayakers, or "paddlers", the film opened to a packed and cheering house on Friday night in Bicentennial Hall. "I was pretty psyched," said Kinsey. "We didn't want to produce something that looked cheap. We wanted something that looked really professional." The film sits firmly in the tradition of outdoor adventure movies pioneered by ski film master Warren Miller. It combines footage of talented paddlers like Remy Mansfield '06, Alden Bird '04 and Katie Hawkins '06 into a nonstop highlight reel of harrowing shoots and waterfall jumps on the challenging local rivers around Middlebury. "What inspired me was wanting to make our own movie of our own people on our own rivers," said Vandal.

Kinsey and Vandal, both kayakers themselves, spent much of the fall following their group of stars to the trickiest rapids in the state in an effort to replicate the daring-do of the best kayak movies. "Most of the stuff in the movie is stuff I can't paddle," admitted Kinsey. "The more filming we did, the more we learned." Their dedication paid off handsomely as the duo captured footage of kayakers bouncing down treacherous rocky channels, dodging dangerous strainers and catapulting off 15-foot and higher waterfalls. Shots of Bird shooting off Bristol Falls, Hawkins making the first-ever female descents of difficult class V rapids, and Rick Cooley '04 cartwheeling off the Otter Creek waterfall pepper the energetic movie, which features some dozen current and former Middlebury students. "I think it turned out really great, we really put our heart and souls into it," said Vandal. "It's shown me the rewards of putting a lot of work into something you want to do and making something you're really proud of."

Courtesy/Alex Kinsey
Justin Beckwith '03 is one of the stars of White Noise, *the new Middlebury-made kayaking video.*

The film gives some rare publicity to the rarely noticed paddling community in Middlebury. "It's good, it gives people an appreciation for what we do," said Cooley. Most of the crowd in attendance were not serious paddlers — they were treated to a rare glimpse of the insulated and often dangerous world of white water boating. "It's an obscure kind of backwoods sport, that's what I like about it," said Bird, the movie's lone C-1 canoer. "But having all those people watching is kind of nice."

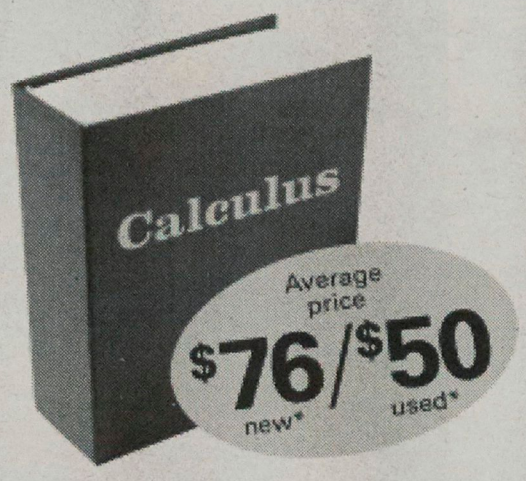
"To have people who were not part of it, who were not kayakers, get a kick out of it — that felt really good," said Kinsey. The two filmmakers were treated to a warm reception by their audience. "The happiest part for me was showing it and having people cheer and clap," said Vandal. "It was really rewarding and made the whole process worth it." The film's slick presentation, however, belies the difficult work that went into its creation. "There was a lot of challenge, learning how to do something right, learning how to film a kayaker the right way," said Vandal. "The hardest part for me was balancing it with school. I probably put more work into the movie than I did on my school work."

The duo will have a far bigger and more seasoned audience when they travel to Kentucky on Feb. 27 to show their film in the National Kayaking Film Festival. "I was psyched," said Kinsey about finding out the film had been selected. "Showing it there we're showing it to avid filmmakers and avid paddlers."

"I didn't sleep at all last night after the call," said Vandal.

The two plan to continue to explore the world of kayaking movies. "The cool thing about kayaking videos is that ski movies are really developed, but kayaking is really young," said Kinsey, who will be headed to graduate school after his graduation next week. Vandal wants to find work with professional kayaking filmmakers this summer before returning for his junior year. Indeed, the two filmmakers left a telling hint at the end of their movie, showing a large unnamed waterfall with the title 'To future possibilities...' "We still have that certain big waterfall to run," grinned Bird. "Just over the horizon."

Retail



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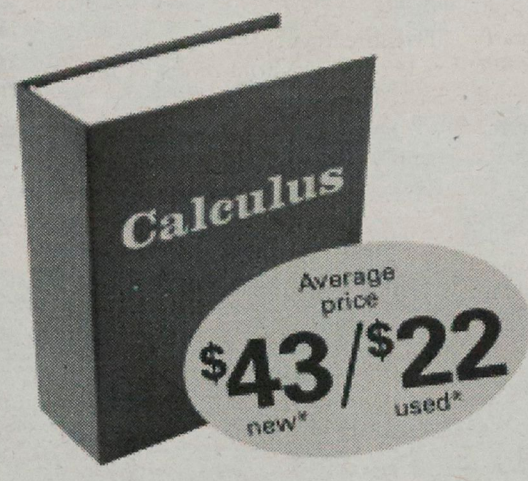

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IM Teams Gear Up for Playoff Glory

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

as whispered favorites.

Given the traditionally large crowds the varsity team attracts for its weekend games, it is no surprise that hockey holds a prestigious spot among the IM roster. The league boasts eight teams, in three different leagues, broken up depending on skill and competitive spirit. The sport, which is co-ed, welcomes beginner skaters getting in a few minutes of ice time along with former varsity bruisers, all of whom get to taste a little puck glory during the long J-term nights.

One of the only gripes I've heard from players has been the lack of convenient ice time. Some games are played as late as midnight, due to the crowded practice schedules of the men's and women's hockey teams, as well as figure skating. "The late night games can be pretty heinous," admitted smooth stick wrangler Peter Hall '06.5, who plays on two teams himself, the Febulators and the Dogs. "But," headds, "it also adds to the spirit of the games. It provides a more casual atmosphere for us to get McNasty."

Soccer has developed an intramural league ripe with out of season varsity and junior varsity athletes, but has managed to stay as competitive and level as the NFL, with approximately eight teams fighting for playoff berths. It is true that there is one team made up mostly of varsity players and another consisting of JV footballers, but even the other co-ed teams stay in the hunt for a title. "[The league] is a successful 'hodge-podge' of players," said JV competitor David Hopkins '06.5, "that seems to work despite itself." In that sense, the ball being kicked around inside the Bubble captures something wholly "intramural" — the spirited, competitive nature of sport, regardless the level of ability.

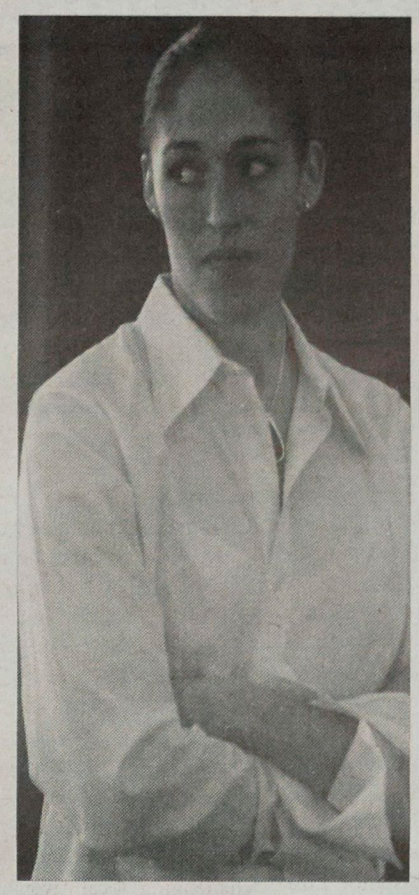
The showpiece of the winter season, however, is basketball, which attracts the most attention, heat and fervor. With playoffs starting this week, the two leagues, one co-ed, and the other all male, contract down to fewer teams, and the games, which are already infamous for causing on-court tiffs, get all the more intense. Like soccer, the IM basketball season is curiously successful. On the one hand, it has seemed to attract the entire football team, as well as many baseball and lacrosse players training for the spring. Yet the game also attracts teams made up entirely of non-varsity athletes, eager for some exercise. And while it is true that the more athletic teams have, for the most part, dominated most games, few complaints can be heard from the other players, who appreciate the chance to compete.

Due to organizational problems in the team's front office, my very own Van Buren Boys had no choice but to prematurely hang up the high-tops, having to wait an entire year for our next chance at IM glory.

On a personal note, my own basketball squad, the talented— yet easily winded — Van Buren Boys, was eliminated from the postseason much earlier than expected due to a technicality that has not sat well with anybody. After an up and down season, including a training period where it didn't seem like anything could go right, we pulled it together and mustered three gutsy wins from our five battles — Our MVP was certainly Mitch "Brian the body" St. Peter '06.5, whose Garnett-like ability down low won us many rebounds and lay-ups — good enough to win a playoff spot. However, due to organizational problems in the team's front office, which had players misinformed of its first round playoff matchup, my very own Van Buren Boys had no choice but to prematurely hang up the high-tops, having to wait an entire year for our next chance at IM glory. "All I know," expressed a defeated Dan Saper '06, who captained the squad for the 2004 season, "is that this 'forfeit' [expletive deleted] hurts the entire league. Now we will never know the rightful owner of the basketball crown."

So while the Middlebury student body, varsity caliber or not, gets ready for playoff basketball, soccer, hockey or broomball, this athlete and his team watch from the sidelines, refusing to be sated by the all too brief physical glory that has touched us all this past month.

Double Team



Sharing their wisdom and showing off their court sense, *noted* Sports Illustrated *columnist Steve Rushin and women's basketball star Rebecca Lobo participated with Middlebury students in hockey coach Bill Beaney's J-term "Coaching Young Athletes" class in a panel discussion on gender and media issues in sports and the state of athletics in modern society.*

Vlad Lodoaba

Skiers Clinch Historic Carnival Win

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

On the men's side, another sophomore led the way. Garrot Kuzzy '06 placed second in the 15K (40:35) only two seconds off the winning time. Veterans Colin Rodgers '04, who came off a strong second place finish at Nationals last week, and Marshall Greene '04 placed sixth and seventh for the Panthers, respectively. Kuzzy, Rodgers and Greene also combined to win the men's 3x5 relay (41:13).

"Monumental. It's pretty cool," commented Carey when asked about the first carnival win in school history. He went on to explain, "It's a terrific beginning, but we still have a lot of work to do as an alpine team. The important thing is for us not to lose focus. We aren't satisfied yet. This is just the beginning of what we can do."

With the combination of young talent and veteran experience, both the alpine and the nordic teams have plenty of depth. The teams are already off to a historic-start, and their potential should not be underestimated.

With plenty of room to improve within the team, and with a win in the first Carnival of the year, these teams are destined for further success down the road.

Plattsburgh Blitzed in Goal Bonanza

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

The Panthers have nine games remaining on the schedule, four of them against NESCAC opponents. Given that the these four league matches are against opponents that the Panthers would expect to beat — Amherst, Hamilton, Wesleyan and Trinity — Middlebury is in good standing to close out the season leading the pack. Closing the season on top of the league can be an enormously important advantage for Middlebury. The chance to host the NESCAC Tournament in Kenyon Arena is what the men always strive for as the crowd has the ability to provide the lift sometimes needed to get the crucial goal.

To earn this right though, the Panthers will face their biggest test at the conclusion of the regular season on Feb. 21, when they host Norwich. The defending Division III Champion Cadets (16-1 overall) have been dominating all season long, and are atop the latest USCHO poll. However, on the basis of the mauling handed to Plattsburgh State, Middlebury have no reason to fear anyone

Middlebury travels to Babson for an evening affair on Friday, Jan. 30, before engaging in a 3 p.m. matinee at U-Mass the following day.

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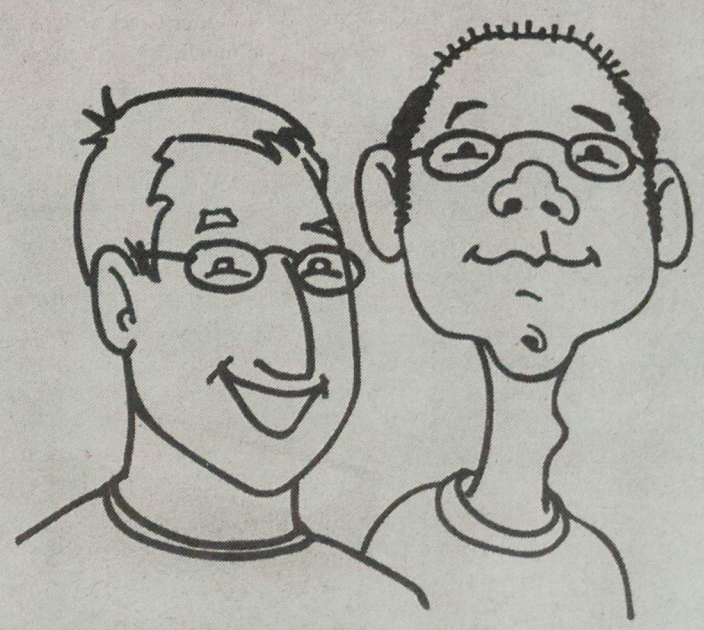

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Men's Basketball Stumbles

By Dan Russell
Staff Writer

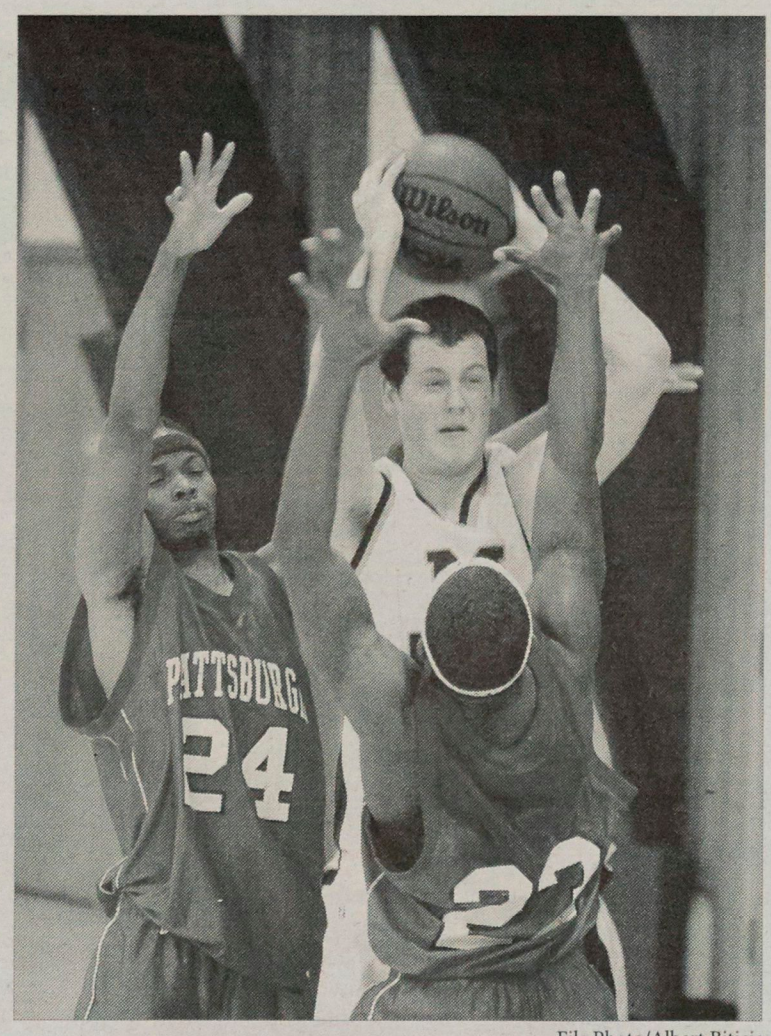
After impressive wins against Hamilton College and Plattsburgh State, the Middlebury College men's basketball team has fallen on hard times, having dropped four of its last five games. After soundly defeating Massachusetts College 75-60, the Panthers traveled to Williams for their first NESCAC match-up of the season. The outcome was never in doubt as Williams, the number-three ranked team in Division III basketball, jumped out to an early lead, shooting a blistering 59 percent in the first half and entering halftime with a 59-37 lead. In the second half, Williams continued its onslaught, limiting the Panthers to only 31 percent shooting, and pulling away for a 104-71 win. Captain Nate Anderson '04 led the Panthers with 18 points, while first-year Bobby Marcoux '07 added 13. Returning home to face Union College, the Panthers led the entire game until, with only 14 seconds left, the Dutchmen corralled an offensive rebound after a missed free throw and took the lead 79-78 on a three-pointer. Middlebury had three opportunities to retake the lead during its final possession but were unable to capitalize as the Panthers lost in heartbreaking fashion. Michael Salek '05 (17 points, 5-8 shooting) and Clark Read '05 (14 points) both had strong games for the Panthers.

Middlebury then faced Amherst College, the number one ranked team in Division III, in their second NESCAC game. Despite shooting only 33 percent in the first half, the Panthers kept the game close, going into halftime trailing by only 10 points with a score of 41-31, and cut the Jeffs lead to three with 11:50 remaining in the second half. They were unable to get any closer, however, as Amherst held Middlebury scoreless for almost four minutes and mounted a 17-point lead, eventually pulling away for a 91-67 win. David Coratti '04 led the Panthers with 14 points on-six-of-seven-shooting, while Read added 12 points.

The following day the Panthers played Trinity College, the ninth-ranked team in the country. The Panthers attacked the Bantams with newfound intensity, holding them to only 33 percent shooting in the first half. The Panthers went into halftime with a 33-28 lead, and then extended it by as many as 10 points in the second half. The Panthers' bad luck would re-emerge, however, as the Bantams battled back, going on a 12-0 run to take a four-point lead with 6:57 left to play. Middlebury was unable to regain control of the game as Trinity eventually pulled away, making five out of six free throws at the end to seal the win. Anderson led Middlebury with 17 points, while John Donnelly '04 added 13.

Co-captain Coratti said, "We've played hard, and we had chances to win, but in the end weren't able to get it done. We had Amherst on the ropes and then lost control of the game, and we had Trinity down at home and then let the game slip away. I feel like our team still needs to develop some offensive consistency. It's extremely frustrating but we have to keep on moving forward. We can win every game left on the schedule, so that's our goal, one day at a time."

The Panthers can take some consolation in that they played competitively against what were undoubtedly the best teams they would face all season and are still very much in contention for the NESCAC playoffs. The Panthers will next face Green Mountain College before they continue with their NESCAC schedule against Bowdoin, Wesleyan and Connecticut College.



File Photo/Albert Biticia

The men's basketball team is feeling the pressure after dropping four of its last five games. They still hope to qualify for postseason play.

Swimmers Continue to Dominate Pool

By Ryan Reese
Assistant Sports Editor

Both the men's and women's swimming and diving teams continued to roll this past week with matching wins over Hamilton College and Union College. With both squads notching their fourth consecutive victories, the Panther squads look solid and appear as though they will be a formidable contender for the NESCAC crown.

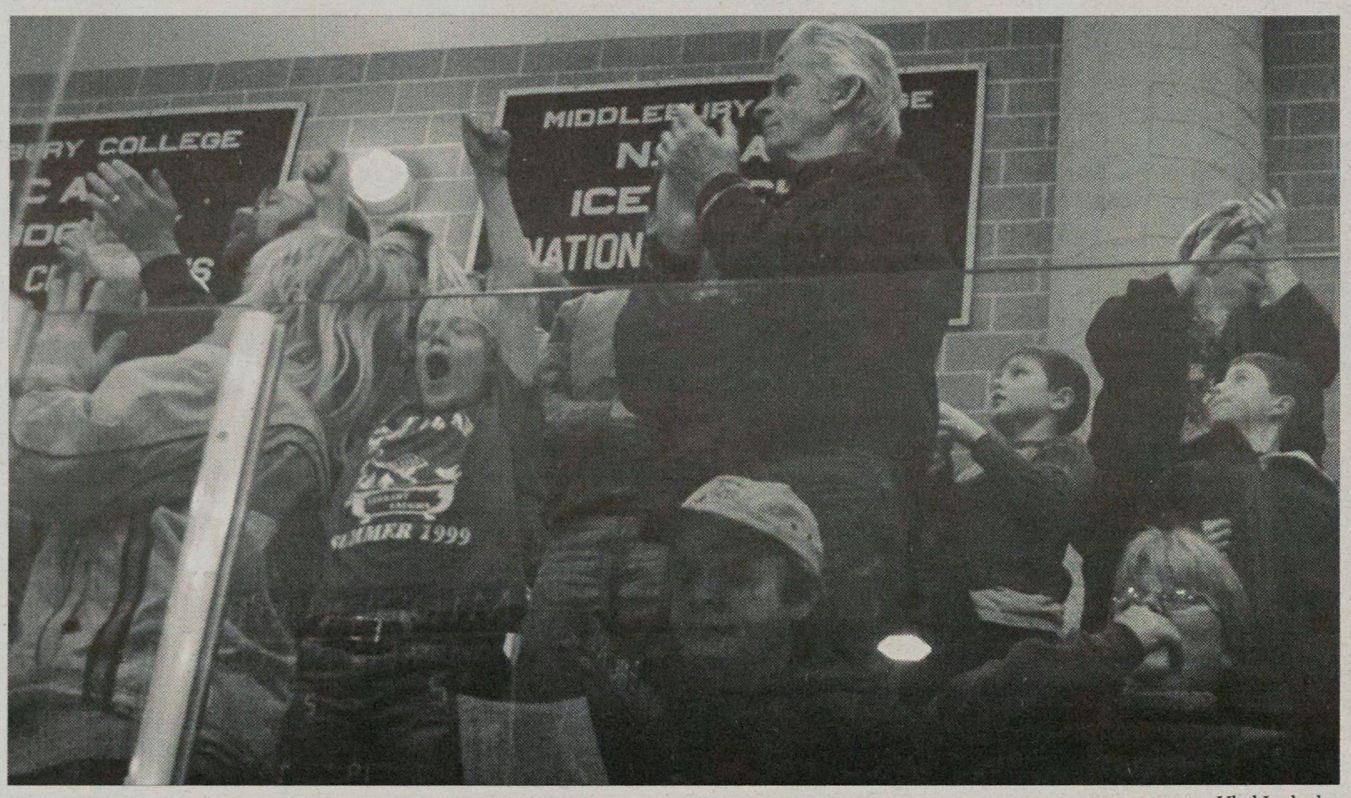
On Saturday, Jan. 17, the men and women turned in an amazing meet against the swimmers from Hamilton. Coach Peter Solomon commented, "It was the best meet that I have ever been affiliated with in my seven years with the program." The men had not beaten their counterparts from Hamilton in four years. Led by dual winners Rob Collier '07 (200 yard butterfly and 200-yard IM) and Jamie Lamere '06 (200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle), the men won by a count of 145-92. Not to be outdone, the women were equally impressive. Sarah Groff '04 dominated with two victories in the 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle races. The highlight of the day definitely belonged to the women's 400-yard freestyle relay. With a time of 3:38.50, they broke the pool record and made an NCAA "B" cut.

> It was the best meet that I have ever been associated with in my seven years with the program.
>
> — Peter Solomon, Head Coach

Solomon reported that after this meet, many of the team members caught the flu. "Going into the meet, we were obviously sick and a little flat against Union." However the teams definitely showed their heart and desire by dominating Union throughout the day. With Karl Whittington '04, David Hawkins '05 and Tim Lux '07 earning dual victories, the men looked solid once again in a 153-107 triumph. The women showed off their depth with eight different swimmers winning events for Middlebury. Once again, the Panther women set a new pool record. The team of Lizzy DeWitt '04, Teague Douglas '06, Mollie Reed '06, and Groff swam to a time of 7:58.24 in the 800-yard freestyle.

With Williams looming on the horizon, the Middlebury swimmers look to continue their winning ways. The meet will take on the usual 16-event format and the Panthers are looking to notch victories in seven to ten of these. Although, Williams is always difficult, Solomon feels that the swimmers can sneak up on the Ephs. The team has lofty aspirations and seems to be focused on the NESCAC title. For the men, there is tremendous parity throughout the league this year with any of the top four schools in position to capture the championship. The women are much more predictable with two teams looking to stake their claim. The Amherst women look as though they will remain undefeated throughout the dual season and the depth of our Middlebury squad have placed them atop the standings. It looks to be an exciting end to an already successful season filled with tough competition, gutsy performances and hardcore pool action.

Cheer Boys Cheer



Vlad Lodoaba

Showing support for the home team, *fans in the stands cheer loudly as Middlebury hockey blow past visitors to victory.*

Panther Track Records Fall

By Ryan Reese
Assistant Sports Editor

This past Saturday, the Middlebury tracksters made their way north into the great nation of Canada in order to take part in the McGill University indoor track competition. Crossing the border proved to be a solid decision for the Panther squad with solid performances across the board. Although many of the athletes' performances were outstanding, the highlight of the day belonged to Matt Horesta '06.

Horesta, competing in the men's 1,000-meter run, broke a Middlebury College record with a time of 2:38.46. Krishna Moody set the previous record in the year 2000. Horesta slashed through this mark while recording a personal best time as well. "It felt good to run a solid race and this is a nice way to start off a season," Horesta said. This performance will serve as a sign of good things to come for the sophomore as he gears up for the remainder of the indoor season as well as the upcoming outdoor campaign.

Not only did Horesta notch his own place in Middlebury sports history, he participated in the other record-breaking performance of the day. The men's 4 x 800 relay team broke the old school mark by nearly four seconds. Horesta, Nick Digani '05, John Erwin '05 and Conor O'Neill '07 shot down the previous record of 8:18.56 with their stunning time of 8:14. Kevin Bright '06 placed third in the 600 meter run. With his time of 1:23.19, Bright reset his own school record from last year. In other events, Digani finished fifth in the 1500, Pascal Losambe '07 and Craig Parker '04 earned sixth and third place finishes respectively in the shot put, and Chris Harnisch '06.5 threw his way to seventh in the men's weight throw.

Although the women had a less sensational day, they too accomplished quite a bit on their trip north of the border. Laura Smith '04 and Beth Butler '07 dominated in the 600-meter run and earned themselves a place in the NCAA Division III meet in March. In addition to this exciting performance, Kim Nelson '06 ended up seventh in the women's weight throw. With very few Middlebury women actually competing in the meet, these finishes were few but very strong. With the remainder of the women's team improving every weekend, more Panthers will surely qualify for the NCAA Division III meet.

After February Break, the Panther runners will travel into New Hampshire to compete at Dartmouth once again. With these record breaking performances coming in consistently, there is no doubt that our Middlebury's squad can accomplish great things throughout the remainder of the season.

Women's Hockey Steamrolls Opponents

Albert Bitici

Heather Wende '04 and the Panthers face a crucial game against Williams next Tuesday.

By Mike Kennedy
Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's hockey team continued its strong play over the last two weeks, picking up a pair of NESCAC wins over Hamilton College and a defeat of national number one Plattsburgh State. The Panthers also squared off against Clarkson College, a Division I opponent, and gave them all they could handle before falling in the third period. The Panthers (10-3) have now climbed into the fourth spot in the National poll and sit in a second place tie with Williams College in the NESCAC, trailing Bowdoin by a game.

Middlebury traveled to Hamilton two weekends ago for an important pair of league games with the Continentals. With the Panthers trailing Bowdoin by one game in the NESCAC standings, they could ill afford to drop another league contest if they hoped to catch the Polar Bears in the race for home ice advantage in the playoffs. The Panthers had little trouble, outscoring Hamilton 17-3 over the two games, while spreading the offense throughout the lineup. Fourteen different Panthers had at least two points on the weekend, Hannah Delong '06, and suddenly found themselves very much in the game with 18 minutes to go. Senior Kristen Reid banged home a rebound off a scrum in front of the Cardinal net to tie the game at two at the midway point of the period. A pair of Middlebury first-years combined for the game winner, as Shannon Tarrant set up Abby Kurtz-Phelan for a power play goal late in the period. The Panthers held on for crucial the 3-2 victory. Kate Kogut '06 made 10saves in goal, picking up her fifth win of the year.

"We found ourselves down by two going into the third, but we knew we weren't out of it and we took that attitude into the last 20 minutes. This was a huge win for us nationally," said Senior Captain Jean Butler.

Middlebury battled evenly with Division I Clarkson for two periods this past weekend, before succumbing to the Golden Knights 6-2. Lorna Gifis '05 and Alison Graddock '07 both scored for the Panthers, who with Molly Turco '04 leading the way with five assists. Turco commented, "It was nice to see everybody getting involved in the offense. Games like these build both individual and team confidence, which will help us in our tougher games down the stretch run of the season"

Plattsburgh came to town last week, yet to be defeated on the season and ranked number one in the nation. The Cardinals showed that they would be tough to beat, as they scored a goal in each of the first two periods and took a 2-0 lead into the final stanza. However, the Panthers got an early goal in the third from had a 2-1 lead midway through the second period. "Playing against Division I competition will only make us better and more prepared for the playoffs, so this was a good experience for us," said Turco.

The Panthers travel to Williams for an important NESCAC game Tuesday and will host Connecticut College and Amherst this weekend at the Kenyon Arena. Rematches with Plattburgh (Feb. 3) attaBowdoin (Feb. 14) remain on the Panther schedule. The Panthers appear to be peaking at just the right time and look solid heading into postseason play.

Women's Basketball Looks to Rebound

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

When the Middlebury women's basketball team thumped Trinity College on the road last Saturday, it stopped a skid that had seen the team drop its five previous games. Following on from a defeat at the hands of St. Lawrence, the women took a trip to Keene State where they ended the first half with a 29-22 lead. The second half was a different story however, and the Panthers were unable to hold the lead, dropping the game 55-66. Middlebury was paced by 19 points from Elyse Carlson '05 while Alexis Hollinger '05 grabbed a double-double with 10 points and 14 boards.

Albert Bitici

Lacey Hebert '06 and the Panthers stopped a five game losing streak on Saturday with a big win against Trinity.

Tackling the red hot Williams team next, the Panthers needed a strong start and perhaps tried too hard in the early stages. Shooting just 14.8 percent from the field in the first half, Middlebury trailed by 13 at the break. Coming out after the break the Panthers looked more like themselves although there was too much to be recovered, and they eventually fell 49-62 to the Ephs. Alexis Batten '04 contributed on both ends of the court with 10 points and 12 rebounds while Hollinger continued her fine form with 14 points off the bench.

Things didn't get much better for Middlebury when Union came to town a few days later, with the visitors jumping out to an early 10-3 lead. Trailing 17-26 at the break, things looked bleak for the Panthers until a 13-2 run in the second half tied the game at 37. Carlson hit three of her five three-pointers during the run on her way to 17 points on the day. Unfortunately, it couldn't be sustained and Union, spurred on by a 13-2 run, was able to pull away in the final stages, eventually winning 64-49.

The Panther slide would continue when pitted against Amherst last Friday. The Lord Jeffs came out strong in the early going and took a 32-24 lead into the locker-room before extending its advantage in the second half to win 77-64. In a fifth consecutive losing effort, Middlebury was led by Batten with 21 points and 11 boards. Perhaps inaccuracy from behind the arc could account for some of the defeat, with the Panthers going 1-18 from three-point land.

Desperate to stop the rut that had taken the women from a record of 7-1 to 7-6, the Panthers traveled to Trinity, which was 8-5 before the game. A 14-2 run in the first half gave the Panthers control of the game and allowed them to take a commanding 45-22 lead into half time. With an enormous team effort, Middlebury powered out to a 30 point lead by the end of the game, with Lacey Hebert '06 the catalyst for everything that seemed to happen on the offensive end. Hebert dished out 14 assists on the day, tying a school record set by Whitney Williams '94. Enormous contributions also came in from Hollinger and Batten, each grabbing a double-double (20 points and 18 boards for Hollinger, 21 and 10 for Batten).

Carlson drained all four of her three-pointers for 12 points while Katie Fehsenfeld '06 also scored in double figures with 15 points of her own.

Trying to explain the explosion that was evident against Trinity, Fehsenfeld commented, "It was the first time we've really come together as a team and figured out what we needed to do to win. We have so much potential that if we can get it together and keep it together we can go far."

Everything seemed to click against Trinity and the Panthers will look for the same sort of offensive production as their season continues into the business end. Another slide and their season could end prematurely, but with more of what was evident against Trinity the women could be looking at a long and successful run into the postseason.

Angry Peter

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Now you'll never find a bigger proponent of intramural sports than me, but I have a confession to make. I hate broomball. I know I may get a lot of flack from the depraved fans of this "sport," but I just have to question why anyone would actually play broomball. I can't think of any game with more pain and less payoff than this ill-formed, redheaded bastard stepchild of hockey.

Now, just to set the record straight, I have actually played broomball. That distasteful experience left me bitter and resentful towards the game that nightly dominates our college's main quad. I know that J-term can stretch on into an eternal cycle of cold grey days, and that activities like intramural sports provide the splashes of color and warmth that we all crave, but can't we come up with a better solution than broomball?

Think about it. Is there any game more frustrating and dumb than broomball? Ten people scrambling awkwardly in sneakers along a sheet of ice trying to hit a too-bouncy ball into a tiny net with a tool singularly ill-suited for that task. I mean, what's not to love? Especially when you get to do it in temperatures so cold your sweat freezes to your skin. Everyone is just slipping and sliding around, hoping they don't fall and give themselves concussions, while both teams converge in a mosh pit around the ball, vainly trying to push the ball toward each other's goal. That sounds more like some brutal 17th century precursor of soccer than an actual intramural sport. The game is slow and devoid of style. It's impossible to pass or move with any sort of skill or purpose, and I can't imagine how any competent goalie could ever let the ball get into the net. The game doesn't reward skill or strategy, and you can't work enough to keep yourself anywhere near warm. If the temperatures ever do warm up, then the ice turns into a wet wasteland. I simply can't imagine any scenario when I would rather play broomball than hockey or soccer.

And, furthermore, people take it so seriously. It's like some sort of quasi-religious experience to stand out there twice a week watching your digits freeze. You get two types of teams: giddy party teams that compete wasted and run around laughing when someone loses their shaky grasp on their equilibrium and goes tumbling down, and obnoxious intense teams who are out there to "try to win it all." I can kind of understand the first group — after all, drinking and intramurals have a long history together, and if you've got good medical insurance and have to play with your house team anyway, you may as well be drunk while you are there. The other group drives me nuts, with their "custom made" personal brooms and their strategy, positioning and play calling. Broomball is by definition a silly game. It is meant to be played that way, why would you ever take it seriously? What is the point of dedicating yourself to being a top-level broomballer? What exactly is the payoff for that? Couldn't these people direct their energies toward something useful, maybe some sport where skill actually matters? Anyways, I have an IM hockey to go to. If anyone wants me, I'll be down at the rink.

MEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK	
Basketball @ Colby	Jan. 30
Hockey @ Babson	Jan. 30
Swimming/Diving @ Williams	Jan. 31

The Campus Sports

WOMEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK	
Hockey vs. Conn. College	Jan. 30
Basketball vs. Colby	Jan. 30
Squash @ Mount Holyoke/Smith	Jan. 30

Playoffs Loom for IM Sports

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

The winter Intramural season is successfully underway at Middlebury College, bringing together all walks of athletic life, inspiring excellence from off-season varsity athletes and non-athletes alike. For the varsity crowd, it is a time of relative relaxation, the calm before the spring season's storm, or the quiet after effects of a long fall. For the rest of the participators, intramurals allow an expression of physical pride harkening back to high school days where the playing field was a little more even. Intramurals are a great equalizer, not only bringing different levels of athletic accomplishment together in the same forum, but also allowing co-ed teams a piece of the spotlight.

Middlebury boasts a wide spectrum of sports to compete in, including basketball, hockey, soccer, volleyball and the outdoors wild card, broomball. True to the unique spirit of the campus, broomball is the notorious crowd-pleaser, providing an alternative athletic competition that has soundly established itself as the most popular IM game, attracting legions of competitors to its frosty, well-lighted rink, helmets and protective gear in tow. As this edition went to press, close to six teams were gearing up for the playoffs, with some senior squads from Brooker and Cook Commons

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Men's Hockey Streaks to NESCAC Top Spot

By Andreas Apostolatos
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's hockey team has risen to the top of the NESCAC standings after winning four games in a row, and nine of its last 10 contests. The Panthers, currently ranked third in Division III according to the latest United States College Hockey Online (USCHO) poll, pulled off a 4-3 overtime win against Bowdoin on Jan. 16. Middlebury's first and only loss of the calendar year came at the hands of Colby on Jan. 17. While the loss to Colby was certainly a disappointment, Middlebury's triumph over Bowdoin, and its decisive 4-0 road victory against Williams on Jan. 20 attests to the Panthers' ability to handle their fellow NESCAC contenders. Both the Ephs and Polar Bears currently sit just two points behind Middlebury in the conference, with identical 7-3-0 records in league play, and Bowdoin is the only other team that is included in the latest USCHO poll, at 12th place.

In what was billed as a crunch game last Tuesday night against Plattsburgh State, ranked 4th in the country before the game, Middlebury put on a show in the first period that had fans reaching for cell phones, and clutching each other in disbelief. The Panthers came flying out of the gates and blitzed the helpless Plattsburgh defense for six unanswered first period goals, leaving the ice to a standing ovation.

With the game effectively over as a contest, the remainder of the duel saw Middlebury add two more goals while the visitors were allowed a single consolation goal to take home with them. It was a simply awesome team display that categorically demonstrated the talent that

Albert Bitici
Brian Phinney '05 and the mens' hockey team romped to an 8-1 victory over fourth-ranked Plattsburgh State on Tuesday.

the team possesses. When the Panthers are on form, they are almost untouchable.

The Panthers' recent success has been helped by the stellar play of senior goaltender Marc Scheuer, who was named NESCAC player of the week on Monday. In addition to shutting out Williams, Scheuer was in goal for the Panthers' subsequent victories over St. Anselm (5-3) and New England College (7-1). Scheuer, who has split time of late with sophomore Yen-I Chen, boasts å 6-1 record, and leads Division III goalies with a .144 goals against average.

Chen, who is 10th in Division III has been the primary option in goal since his arrival at Middlebury in the fall of 2002, while Scheuer was often used primarily against weaker competition. However, Scheuer's ability to showcase his skills in recent chances against tougher opponents has made him a serious alternative for big games.

"Yen-I was unfortunate to get some bad bounces against Colby," commented Scheuer, a native Canadian. "Since [Chen] got here last year, I've really learned a lot working under him, and he's challenged the other goalies on the team to get better. Since freshman year, I haven't been playing much, and to be able to start against teams like Williams and New England College means a lot. I've been waiting for this opportunity to prove myself for a long time." In any given game, the Panthers have the luxury of a reserve netminder who would start on most other NESCAC teams.

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Middlebury Skiers Carve a New Chapter in Team History

Garrett Kuzzy
Triumphant in victory, the Middlebury men's and women's nordic and alpine teams won the first carnival in their history at Colby last weekend.

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Middlebury College nordic and alpine ski teams set the bar higher than ever before by winning the Colby Carnival held at Sugarloaf/USA resort in Maine. The two teams combined for Middlebury's first-ever carnival race win since the Eastern Intercollegiate Skiing Association (EISA) began combining team scores in 1983.

The trio of John Rusten '06, Fred Emich '04 and Andrew Peters '04 led the way for Men's Alpine, with Killington native Dave Coriell '06 also finishing strong, placing eighth in Slalom (1:24.40). Rusten, whose home base is Federal Way, Washington, placed second in GS (2:00.57), a mere fifty-seven hundredths of a second off the winning time. Rusten followed with an impressive performance in Slalom, finishing third (1.22.96), only thirty-four hundredths of a second off of the winning pace.

"I can't say enough about Johnny," stated Alpine Coach Forest Carey of Rusten, who has been plagued with a knee injury. He had surgery late this past summer, but after playing soccer all fall and now beginning ski season, the injury hasn't left his mind. "It had been bothering him," explained Carey, "but with the adrenaline of competition he just stepped up." Injuries can really bring out the character in an athlete, and based on his performance, Rusten passed with flying colors.

"We had four skiers in the top seven going into the GS event," continued Carey. "But when three of the four crashed, things stopped looking so good."

After being seated 22nd going in, Emich finished sixth in GS (2:00.53) and 11th in Slalom (1:25.36). Peters, who came in as the 60th ranked skier, also finished a strong 12th in GS. As Carey put it: "Emich and Peters really stepped up." It was a big deal for Middlebury to have four of the top seven skiers, but the depth and character of the team came out in Emich and Peters' stellar finishes.

On the girls side, Lindsay Brush '07 led the way with her third place finish in GS (2:06.14), only 1.7 seconds off the winning time. "It's reassuring to see Lindsey step up," commented Carey. "You can never be certain how a skier will react in the move from high school to college skiing." Both Lindsay and classmate Tara Martin '07 made the adjustment flawlessly. Martin, another Vermont native based out of Lyndonville, finished 13th in GS (2:10:84). Sandwiched between the two rookies, veteran Laura Scripture '04 placed a strong eighth (2:07:57).

In Slalom, Jessica Smith '05 finished eighth (1:30.32), with Brush nipping at her heals, placing a mere twenty hundredths of a second behind in ninth position (1:30.52). Tara Martin also had a strong finish, coming in 15th.

Alpine cannot be given all the credit, however. In fact, the nordic team may even have "carried" the alpine team to this victory. Carey pointed out, "The nordic team skied out of their mind. We [the alpine team] skied super solid, but we can do better."

Claire Anderson '06 carried the way for the women's team, not missing a beat from last year's EISA Championships, as she won the women's 10K freestyle race (31:50). Middlebury had a total of three of the top five in the 10K with Kate Whitcomb '04 finishing forth (32:29) and Kate Newich '04 managing fifth (32:38). The trio also combined to win the women's 3x5 relay race (48.29).

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